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MALAWI

Political and economic news

Export earnings seen declining Malawi's trade deficit a negative difference between exports and imports is expected to continue worsening as the country's second and third key export commodities tea and sugar, are fetching lower prices on the international market. Figures contained in the Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM) Monetary Policy Committee report indicate that tea prices at Mombasa market averaged USD 2.28 per kilogramme (kg) in the third quarter of this year compared to USD 2.34 per kg in the second quarter. The report further reveals that sugar sales on the European Union market fetched an average price of USD 0.34 per kg in the third quarter, slightly lower than USD 0.35 per kg in the second quarter. *Times Business*)

PIL sees stability in fuel supply Petroleum Importers Limited (PIL) has secured four million litres of petrol and another two million litres of diesel, which are expected to help ease fuel supply pressure in the country. Batches of commodities are expected to start arriving in the country on Thursday, according to PIL General Manager. He mentioned this when the firm received another consignment of one million litres of diesel at Blantyre train station on Monday, which came through the port of Nacala in Mozambique via rail. However, he was quick to point out that continued importation of the commodity depends on support from the Reserve Bank of Malawi. This will beef up the product in Malawi because, using rail, we can bring in huge volumes at once. There were 25 wagons which are about one million litres. This means that, in terms of diesel, we are going to be secure for some days and we ask the central bank to continue supporting us with foreign exchange. (*Source: Times Business*)

Mining firm upbeat prospects, licencing Lancaster Exploration Limited, a subsidiary of dual-listed Mkango Resources, has stated it is looking forward to receiving the required mining permit to enable it to roll out the rare earth carbonate extraction and processing at the future Songwe Hill mine in Phalombe. This came out recently when the Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources and Climate Change toured the site. Lancaster Exploration Limited Country Director mentioned that discussions with the government have reached a final stage. We have concluded all necessary processes on our side and been involved in many meetings with government ministries and authorities. The approval of our ESIA report will enable the mining licence to be issued along with the MDA so that we can start our mining operations in earnest. *(Source: Times Business)*

The Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (Escom) has mentioned that it intends to roll out electricity connections under the USD 150m (about MWK 154.6bn) Malawi Electricity Access Project (Meap) in December this year. Recently, the Daily Times revealed that funds for the project have been lying idle despite the country facing a series of blackouts. In 2019, the National Assembly approved the World Bank loan to implement Meap as part of the implementation modalities for the National Energy Policy of 2018. Escom Chief Executive Officer said the utility company has procured meters and poles that are already in the country. He said other items, such as conductors, are currently in transit. The connection process will be transparent and we will be providing connection schedules to the media. (*Source: Times Business*)

USD150m electricity access

project rolls out December

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Market activity and colour

Market commentary

The market traded 11m shares in 101 trades recording a market turnover of MWK 3.1bn during the week ended. Airtel (+0.1%), Nico (+0.1%), FDHB (+0.9%), NBM and STD were the market gainers whilst FMBCH (-3.6%) and NBS dropped in price. The price gains registered in the counters mentioned above were not significant enough to cover the loss in FMBCH (-3.6%) which resulted in a drop on the MSE All Share Index.

However, on year-to-date the index went up by 58% and 0.06% on month-to-date. The market capitalisation in MWK rose by 28.42% y-t-d to K3.1trn but remained the same in USD terms 3bn representing 2.15%.

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SYMBOL SUMMARY

Trading Summay for the week ending 18 November 2022

Symbol	Open	Close		Volume	Value	Trades Count	Market Capitalization
AIRTEL	55.01	55.09	0.1% ↑	121,569	6,688,864.09		605,990,000,000
BHL	10.99	10.99	0.00	0	0.00	0	9,228,860,248
FDHB	14.87	15.00	0.9% ↑	6,458,860	96,649,050.00	16	103,515,468,750
FMBCH	115.00	110.82	-3.6%	8,200	938,808.00	4	272,423,265,000
ICON	<mark>11.96</mark>	11.9 <mark>6</mark>	0.00	0	0.00	0	79,892,800,000
ILLOVO	500.10	500.10	0.00	2,244,934	1,122,691,621.00	22	356,793,539,939
MPICO	20.66	20.66	0.00	0	0.00	0	47,477,660,524
NBM	1,400.03	1,400.26	0.0% ↑	118,492	165,894,975.00	19	653,825,835,452
NBS	22.61	22.60	0.0%	1,527,516	34,521,864.00	8	65,778,957,846
NICO	54.96	55.00	0.1% ↑	410,906	22,598,276.00		57,367,260,280
NITL	112.01	112.01	0.00	<mark>8</mark> 75	98,008.75	2	15,121,350,000
OMU	1,156.00	1,156.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	18,846,717,684
PCL	2,181.38	2,181.38	0.00	400	872,552.00	2	262,323,640,632
STANDARD	2,000.02	2,000.03	0.0% ↑	83,500	167,001,740.00	8	469,343,364,045
SUNBIRD	92.03	92.03	0.00	0	0.00	0	24,073,444,837
TNM	12.02	12.02	0.00	26,000	312,520.00	3	120,686,209,000
	Totals			11,001,252	1,618,268,278.84	101	3,162,688,374,236
					18-Nov-22	11-Nov-22	31-Dec-21
					1006 10	1000 10	010 10

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INDEX (week)	58,690.96	58,544.16	(0.00) 🗍	MWK/USD	1026.43	1026.43	816.40
INDEX (month)	55,046.26	58,544.16	0.06 ↑	MWK/GBP	1258.21	1238.12	1102.14
INDEX (year to date)	37,061.70	58,544.16	58.0% ↑	MWK/ZAR	60.93	60.91	51.35
			Market cap (MWK'm) Market cap (USD'm)		3,162,688.37 3081.236504		2,462,680.71 3016.511645

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