

**Primary Issue: Government Reopens Two Fifteen-Year Treasury Bond**

This month the government will be looking to raise **KES 40Bn (USD 395.90Mn)** for budgetary support by reopening two fifteen year bond **FXD1/2010/15 (7.06 years)** with a fixed **10.25%** coupon and **FXD2/2013/15 (10.15 years)** a fixed **12.00%** coupon which will attract a withholding tax rate of **10%**. We expect a moderate to high subscription for the **7.06 year** paper and moderate to low subscription for the **10.15 years**. We recommend investors to bid **12.500% to 12.705%** range for the **7.06-year** (Current yield 12.606%) and **12.80% to 13.1%** for the **10.15-year** (current 12.654%) bond.

A total of **KES 25.25Bn (USD 294.9Mn)** (in coupons and maturities) will be redeemed in February 2018.

**Secondary Market:** Secondary market is bound to witness an increase in activity with first half of February transacting **KES 34.94Bn (USD 345.9Mn)** compared to **KES 37.5Bn (USD 371.4Mn)** for the whole of January 2018. The on the run IFB bond traded **KES 9.43Bn (USD 93.3Mn)** with additional trades driven by book movements as clients change fund managers. The market is set to normalize in March.

**Interbank:** Interbank rate stood at **4.49%** with an average of **5.26%** and **KES 16.49Bn (USD 163.17Mn)** for the month to date compared to **5.78%** and **KES 17.73Bn (USD 175.5Mn)** over the same period in January.

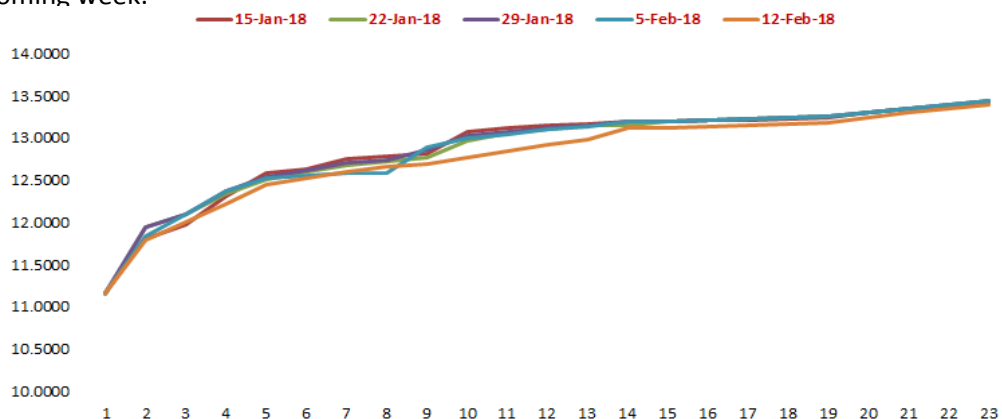
The low rate is pushed by high liquidity in the market due to government payments. The banks CRR cycle comes to an end today. We anticipate interbank to reverse on pressure from tax payment by banks in the coming week.

**NSE Yield Curve (5 Week Yield Curve):** With the Yield Curve flattening by decline in short term yields (**2Yr, -3.17bps**) and mid-term (**5 Yr, -6.9bps and 10 Yr, -22.7bps**), we recommend investors to position their portfolio on mid to long term papers. This will protect the portfolio against losses from rising short term yields.

**T-Bills:** Government will borrow **KES 96Bn (USD 950.2Mn)** in short term papers. The market has seen a high liquidity with T-Bills oversubscribed with past four auctions **averaging 116.5%** with a mean acceptance of **90.4%**. We anticipate subscriptions to remain **>100%** with **acceptance >95%** as rates remain stable at **8.0%, 10.4% and 11.2% for the 91 day, 182 day and 364 day** papers respectively.

February redemptions stand at **KES 77.73Bn (USD 769.3Mn)**.

**February Inflation:** We project February inflation to range **4.6% to 4.91% with CPI up 1.6%-1.8% to 188.25-188.81**. This be driven marginal increase in pump prices on higher international prices in (December average USD 63.33pb and dollar KES 103.1 versus 62.31pb and KES 103.57 average in November), increase in electricity bills and increased food prices.



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