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22 August 2017

Economic and Political News

President, Jacob Zuma, has signed the Financial Sector Regulation Act into law. The Act establishes two new financial sector regulators, the Financial Sector Conduct Authority and the Prudential Authority.

Parliament's legal services unit has recommended that Public Service and Administration Minister and former Communications Minister, Faith Muthambi, should be investigated for possibly misleading the ad hoc committee of inquiry into the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr. Rob Davies stated that infrastructure development was essential for industrialisation in Africa.

The Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution (CASAC) has urged National Assembly speaker, Baleka Mbete and the portfolio committee on justice and correctional services to urgently deal with the review of the executive members' ethics act.

The Congress of South Africa Trade Unions (COSATU), reiterated its call for President, Jacob Zuma, to step down, along with "incompetent" cabinet ministers.

South Africa Market

South African markets closed higher

South African markets closed in the green yesterday, boosted by gains in platinum mining and retail sector stocks. The JSE All Share Index rose 0.3% to close at 55,450.53.



UK Market

The FTSE 100 futures are trading in positive territory

UK markets finished lower yesterday, led by losses in financial sector stocks. The FTSE 100 Index declined 0.1% to close at 7,318.88.



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Key Indices

	Last Close		1 Day Chg	1 D % Chg	WTD % Chg	MTD % Chg	Prev. Month % Chg	YTD % Chg
JSE All Share	55450.53		146.30	0.26%	0.26%	0.44%	6.97%	9.47%
JSE Top 40	49029.00		99.13	0.20%	0.20%	0.32%	7.60%	11.68%
FTSE 100	7318.88	▼	-5.10	-0.07%	-0.07%	-0.72%	0.81%	2.46%
DAX 30	12065.99	▼	-99.20	-0.82%	-0.82%	-0.43%	-1.68%	5.09%
CAC 40	5087.59	▼	-26.56	-0.52%	-0.52%	-0.12%	-0.53%	4.63%
S&P 500	2428.37		2.82	0.12%	0.12%	-1.70%	1.93%	8.47%
Nasdaq Composite	6213.13	▼	-3.40	-0.05%	-0.05%	-2.13%	3.38%	15.42%
DJIA	21703.75		29.24	0.13%	0.13%	-0.86%	2.54%	9.82%

US Market

The S&P 500 futures are trading in the green

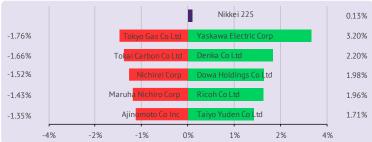
US markets closed higher yesterday, amid an increase in retail sector stocks. Data revealed that the US Chicago Fed's National activity index declined more than market expectations in July. The S&P 500 Index climbed 0.1% to close at 2,428.37.



Asian Market

Trading higher

Asian markets are trading higher this morning, tracking overnight gains on Wall Street. The Nikkei 225 Index is trading 0.1% higher at 19,417.90.



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Key Currencies & Commodities

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USDZAR

USD trading weaker against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the US Dollar is trading 0.1% lower against the South African Rand at R13.1605. Later today, traders will keep a close watch on US house price index for further cues. Separately, South Africa's leading indicator will be on investors' radar.

The US Dollar rose against the South African Rand yesterday. On the macro front, US Chicago Fed's National activity index dropped morethan-expected in July.

GBPZAR

GBP trading lower against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the British Pound dropped 0.2% against the South African Rand to trade at R16.9606. Later today, traders will keep an eye on UK's public sector net borrowings for further direction.

The British Pound advanced against the South African Rand yesterday.

EURZAR

EUR trading weaker against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the Euro is trading 0.2% lower against the South African Rand at R15.5430. Going forward, market participants will keep a tab on the Eurozone's and Germany's ZEW economic sentiment index for further indication.

The Euro strengthened against the South African Rand yesterday. In major news, the Bundesbank stated that the German economy is expected to grow at a faster pace in the third quarter on the back of exceptionally robust industrial production, exports and consumption.

AUDZAR

AUD trading lower against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the Australian Dollar marginally dropped against the South African Rand to trade at R10.4524. Earlier in the session, data showed that Australia's ANZ Roy Morgan weekly consumer confidence index recorded a drop for the week ended August 20, 2017.

The Australian Dollar rose against the South African Rand yesterday.

	Current		1 D % Chg	WTD % Chg	MTD % Chg	Prev. Month % Chg	YTD % Chg
USDZAR	13.1605	▼	0.12%	0.12%	-0.09%	0.85%	-4.06%
GBPZAR	16.9606	▼	0.32%	0.32%	-2.49%	2.31%	0.37%
EURZAR	15.5430	▼	0.61%	0.61%	-0.32%	4.50%	7.79%
AUDZAR	10.4524	▼	0.55%	0.55%	-1.16%	5.43%	5.56%
EURUSD	1.1810	▼	0.46%	0.46%	-0.23%	3.64%	12.38%
GBPUSD	1.2887	▼	0.23%	0.23%	-2.38%	1.46%	4.57%
Brent (\$/barrel)	51.8		-2.01%	-2.01%	-2.01%	8.10%	-9.08%
Gold (\$/oz)	1294.4		0.40%	0.40%	1.91%	1.96%	12.08%
Platinum (\$/oz)	984.5	▼	0.32%	0.32%	4.76%	1.84%	9.31%
Copper (\$/MT)*	6551.3		1.53%	1.53%	3.39%	6.90%	18.62%
*As of Previous Close							

Gold

Trading in the green

At 06:00 SAST, gold prices edged 0.3% higher to trade at \$1,294.40/oz.

Yesterday, gold prices rose 0.4% to close at \$1,290.80/oz, as increasing geopolitical tensions between the US and North Korea fuelled demand for the safe haven asset.

Brent Crude Oil

Trading stronger

At 06:00 SAST, Brent crude oil edged 0.3% higher to trade at \$51.82/bl, boosted by indications that supply is gradually tightening, especially in the United States.

Yesterday, Brent crude oil dropped 2.0% to settle at \$51.66/bl, reversing its previous session gains.

Platinum

Trading in negative territory

At 06:00 SAST, platinum prices edged 0.1% lower to trade at \$984.50/oz.

Yesterday, platinum prices climbed 0.3% to close at \$985.50/oz.

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Major South Africa Corporate News

Advtech Limited

In its 1H17 results, the company stated that its revenue advanced 22.1% from the same period of the preceding year to R2.00bn. Its diluted EPS stood at 38.40c, compared with 36.20c recorded in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Sasol Limited

In its FY17 results, the company stated that its turnover slightly dropped to R172.41bn from R172.94bn recorded in the previous year. Its diluted EPS rose 53.6% from the preceding year to 33.27c.

AngloGold Ashanti Limited

In its 1H17 results, the company revealed that its revenue advanced 4.3% from the same period of the preceding year to \$2.13bn. Its diluted loss per share stood at 43.00c, compared with EPS of 13.00c recorded in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Major Global Economic News

Eurozone

In its monthly bulletin, the Deutsche Bundesbank indicated that the German economy is expected to continue its strong growth trend in the third quarter, on the back of exceptionally strong industrial production, exports and consumption. The central bank further added that the outlook for consumers remains bright, amid a strong labour market and positive income growth.

Asia

In Australia, the ANZ Roy Morgan Weekly consumer confidence index fell to 109.20 for the week ended August 20, 2017, compared to a reading of 111.70 in the prior month.

US

In the US, the Chicago Fed national activity index fell to a level of -0.01 in July, compared to market expectations of a fall to 0.10. The index had recorded a revised level of 0.16 in the prior month.

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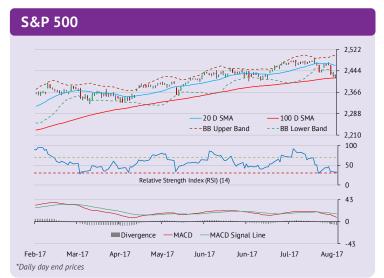
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Technical Snapshot



The JSE All Share index is expected to find support at 55,020.14, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 54,589.74. The index is expected to find its first resistance at 55,844.11, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 56,237.68.



The S&P 500 index is expected to find support at 2,405.50, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 2,382.64. The index is expected to find its first resistance at 2,463.08, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 2,497.80.



The pair is expected to find support at 13.0629, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 12.9515. The pair is expected to find its first resistance at 13.3509, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 13.5275.



Gold is expected to find support at \$1,271.90/oz, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of \$1,253.00/oz. The precious metal is expected to find its first resistance at \$1,305.20/oz, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of \$1,319.60/oz.

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Economic Calendar

Country	SAST Economic Indicator		Relevance	Consensus	Previous	Frequency		
 Japan 	07:00	Supermarket Sales (YoY) (Jul)	\checkmark	-	-1.20%	Monthly		
South Africa	09:00	Leading Indicator (lun)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	95.80	Monthly		
UK	10:30	PSCNR Net Debt % GDP (Jul)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	102.40%	Monthly		
UK UK	10:30	Public Sector Net Cash Requirement (Jul)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	GBP17.80bn	Monthly		
UK	10:30	PSNB ex Interventions (Jul)	\checkmark	GBP1.00bn	GBP6.90bn	Monthly		
UK UK	10:30	Public Sector Net Borrowing (Jul)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	GBP0.30bn	GBP6.30bn	Monthly		
Eurozone	11:00	ZEW Survey - Economic Sentiment (Aug)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	35.60	Monthly		
Germany	11:00	ZEW Survey - Economic Sentiment (Aug)	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	15.00	17.50	Monthly		
Germany	11:00	ZEW Survey - Current Situation (Aug)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	85.20	86.40	Monthly		
UK UK	12:00	CBI Trends Selling Prices (Aug)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	9.00	Monthly		
UK	12:00	CBI Industrial Trends Survey - Orders (Aug)	\checkmark	8.00	10.00	Monthly		
Eurozone	14:00	ECB's Constancio Speaks at Economists' Congress in Lisbon	\checkmark	-	-	As scheduled		
US	15:00	House Price Index s.a. (Jun)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	249.20	Monthly		
*> China	15:00	Conference Board Leading Economic Index (Jul)	\checkmark	-	-	Monthly		
US	15:00	House Price Purchase Index (QoQ) (Q2)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-	1.40%	Quarterly		
US	15:00	Housing Price Index (MoM) (Jun)	\checkmark	0.50%	0.40%	Monthly		
US	16:00	Richmond Fed Manufacturing Index (Aug)	\checkmark	10.00	14.00	Monthly		
Note: √√√High √√Medium √Low								

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page 5