



18 February 2020

Economic and political news

Ratings agency, Moody's, has cut South Africa's (SA) GDP growth forecast for 2020 to 0.7% from 1.5% projected in September, citing persistent power cuts and weak domestic demand.

The North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria has officially withdrawn criminal charges against three former senior South African Revenue Service (SARS) officials, Ivan Pillay, Johann van Loggerenberg and Andries Janse van Rensburg.

Eskom has indicated that it would not implement load shedding today.

In the latest edition of a weekly newsletter, President, Cyril Ramaphosa, stated that the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention programme launched last week was a strategic national plan to address youth unemployment.

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has nominated Randall Williams as its candidate for Tshwane mayor position.

South Africa Market

South African markets closed higher

South African markets closed in the green yesterday, boosted by gains in platinum mining sector stocks. The JSE All Share Index rose 0.6% to close at 58,187.96.

To Read More Click Here

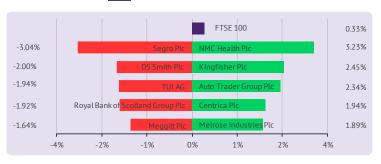


UK Market

UK markets closed in the green

UK markets finished higher yesterday, after China took stimulus measures to contain the economic slowdown caused due the coronavirus epidemic. The FTSE 100 Index advanced 0.3% to close at 7,433.25. Today, the FTSE 100 futures are trading in negative territory.

To Read More Click Here



Key indices

	As at 17 Feb 2020		1 Day Chg	1 D % Chg	WTD % Chg	MTD % Chg	Prev. month % Chg	YTD % Chg
JSE All Share (ZAR)	58187.96	A	326.20	0.56	0.56	3.76	-1.76	1.93
JSE Top 40 (ZAR)	52357.57	A	307.59	0.59	0.59	4.56	-1.46	3.03
FTSE 100 (GBP)	7433.25	_	24.12	0.33	0.33	2.02	-3.40	-1.45
DAX 30 (EUR)	13783.89	A	39.68	0.29	0.29	6.18	-2.02	4.04
CAC 40 (EUR)	6085.95	_	16.60	0.27	0.27	4.82	-2.87	1.80
S&P 500 (USD)*	3380.16	A	6.22	0.18	NA	4.79	-0.16	4.62
Nasdaq * Composite (USD)	9731.18	A	19.21	0.20	NA	6.34	1.99	8.45
DJIA (USD)*	29398.08	•	-25.23	-0.09	NA	4.04	-0.99	3.01
MSCI Emerging Markets (USD)	1107.99	A	1.69	0.15	0.15	4.30	-4.69	-0.60
MSCI Developed World (USD)	2430.69	•	-0.67	-0.03	-0.03	3.77	-0.68	3.06
* Values as on 14 February 2020								

US Market

US markets closed yesterday

US markets were closed yesterday on account of a public holiday. Today, the S&P 500 futures are trading in the red.



Asian Market

Trading lower

Asian markets are trading lower this morning, amid mounting concerns over the coronavirus outbreak. As at 6:00 SAST, the Nikkei 225 Index is trading 1.5% lower at 23,169.53.

To Read More Click Here



USD ZAR



USD trading higher against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the US Dollar climbed 0.2% against the South African Rand to trade at R15.0179. Later today, traders will keep a close watch on the US NY Empire State manufacturing index and the NAHB housing market index for further direction.

The US Dollar rose against the South African Rand yesterday. Separately, the South African Rand fell against the US dollar, after Moody's slashed SA's 2020 GDP growth forecast.

To Read More Click Here

GBP ZAR



GBP trading firmer against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the British Pound gained 0.2% against the South African Rand to trade at R19.5298. Ahead in the day, traders will keep an eye on UK's ILO unemployment rate and average earnings including bonus for further indication.

The British Pound advanced against the South African Rand yesterday, amid expectations of expansion in fiscal policy under the leadership of Britain's new finance minister.

To Read More Click Here

EUR ZAR



EUR trading higher against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the Euro rose 0.1% against the South African Rand to trade at R16.2687. Going forward, market participants will keep a tab on ZEW economic sentiment indicator across the Eurozone for further cues.

The Euro strengthened against the South African Rand yesterday.

AUD ZAR



AUD trading lower against ZAR

At 06:00 SAST, the Australian Dollar is trading 0.2% weaker against the South African Rand at R10.0460, following the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) meeting minutes, which highlighted concerns about the coronavirus impact. Elsewhere, in China, Australia's largest trading partner, the house price index advanced in January.

To Read More Click Here

The Australian Dollar rose against the South African Rand yesterday.

Key currencies & commodities

	Current#		1 D % Chg	WTD % Chg	MTD % Chg	Prev. month % Chg	YTD % Chg
USDZAR	15.0179	•	0.51	0.51	-0.27	7.34	7.05
GBPZAR	19.5298	•	0.19	0.19	-1.63	6.76	5.03
EURZAR	16.2687	•	0.58	0.58	-2.44	6.08	3.48
AUDZAR	10.0460	A	0.53	0.53	0.10	2.19	2.30
EURUSD	1.0833	•	0.05	0.05	-2.32	-1.07	-3.36
GBPUSD	1.3005	•	-0.30	-0.30	-1.50	-0.38	-1.88
Brent (\$/barrel)	57.0	•	0.61	0.61	1.85	-14.21	-12.62
Gold (\$/oz)**	1589.7	A	0.48	NA	-0.01	3.93	3.91
Platinum (\$/oz)**	974.2	A	-0.61	NA	0.72	-0.98	-0.27
Copper (\$/MT)*	5796.8	A	0.80	0.80	4.42	-9.72	-5.73

Gold

Trading in the green

At 06:00 SAST, gold prices edged 0.4% higher to trade at \$1,589.70/oz.

*As of previous close, #As on 06:00 SAST ** 1D% change as on 14 February 2020

Trading in gold was closed yesterday on account of a public holiday in the

Brent Crude Oil



At 06:00 SAST, Brent crude oil edged 1.1% lower to trade at \$57.04/bl.

Yesterday, Brent crude oil advanced 0.6% to settle at \$57.67/bl, amid expectations that output cuts by the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, including Russia could tighten global crude supply and support prices.

To Read More Click Here

Trading in positive territory

Platinum



At 06:00 SAST, platinum prices edged 0.6% higher to trade at \$974.20/oz.

Trading in platinum was closed yesterday on account of a public holiday in the US.



Major South African corporate news

African Rainbow Minerals Limited

In its 1H20 trading statement, the company announced that it expects EPS to be between 1,081.00c and 1,114.00c, compared to 682.00c in the same period of the prior year and its HEPS to be between 1,100.00c and 1,125.00c, compared to 1,149.00c in the previous year.

Discovery Limited

In its 1H20 trading statement, the company announced that it expects EPS to be between 1,081.00c and 1,114.00c, compared to 682.00c in the same period of the prior year and its HEPS to be between 1,100.00c and 1,125.00c, compared to 1,149.00c in the previous year.

Investec Limited

The company announced that it has acknowledged the confirmation made by Ninety One regarding its intention to proceed with an Initial Public Offering (IPO) of Ninety One shares and certain details of the IPO. The intention to float follows the announcements by Investec on 10 February regarding the successful outcome of the company's shareholder vote to proceed with the demerger and listing of Ninety One and Investec's announcements on 31 January 2020 of Ninety One's expected intention to float and release of a Ninety One registration document.

Major global economic news

Asia

In China, the house price index rose 6.3% in January, compared to 6.6% in the previous month.

In Japan, final industrial production advanced 1.2% on a monthly basis in December, compared to a rise of 1.3% in the prior month. The preliminary figures had recorded an advance of 1.3%.

The RBA, in its February monetary policy meeting minutes, reviewed the case for further reduction in cash rate and signalled that the board was prepared to ease monetary policy further if needed. Further, the central bank reiterated that low interest rates would be required for an extended period to reach full employment and achieve its inflation target. Additionally, the minutes suggested that coronavirus presented a 'material risk' to China's economy, and thus Australia.

Mpact Limited

In its FY19 trading statement, the company announced that it expects revenues to rise by approximately 5.0% to ZAR11.10bn. Further, it expects HEPS to be between 175.00c and 195.00c, compared to 235.30c and its underlying EPS to be between 185.00c and 200.00c. compared to 247.70c in the preceding year.

Sibanve Gold Limited

The company announced that it has appointed Richard (Rick) Menell as the lead independent director, with immediate effect. Meanwhile, Rick was appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the company on 1 January 2013.



Technical snapshot



The JSE All Share index is expected to find support at 57,204.25, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 56,220.53. The index is expected to find its first resistance at 58,721.20, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 59,254.43.



The S&P 500 index is expected to find support at 3,360.22, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 3,340.29. The index is expected to find its first resistance at 3,392.59, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 3,405.03.



The pair is expected to find support at 14.8069, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of 14.6263. The pair is expected to find its first resistance at 15.0943, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of 15.2011.



Gold is expected to find support at \$1,568.33/oz, and a fall through could take it to the next support level of \$1,553.97/oz. The precious metal is expected to find its first resistance at \$1,589.73/oz, and a rise through could take it to the next resistance level of \$1,596.77/oz.

Economic calendar

Country	SAST	Economic indicator	Relevance	Consensus	Previous	Frequency
Eurozone	09:00	EU 27 New Car Registrations (YoY) (Jan)	✓	-	21.70%	Monthly
UK	11:30	Claimant Count Rate s.a. (Jan)	√ √	-	3.50%	Monthly
UK	11:30	Employment Change (3M/3M) (Dec)	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	-	208.00K	Monthly
UK	11:30	Claimant Count Change (Jan)	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	22.60K	14.90K	Monthly
UK	11:30	ILO Unemployment Rate (3M) (Dec)	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	3.80%	3.80%	Monthly
UK	11:30	Average Earnings Including Bonus (3Mo/Yr) (Dec)	✓ ✓	3.10%	3.20%	Monthly
UK	11:30	Average Earnings Excluding Bonus (3Mo/Yr) (Dec)	\checkmark	3.30%	3.40%	Monthly
Germany	12:00	ZEW Survey - Current Situation (Feb)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	-10.00	-9.50	Monthly
US	15:30	NY Empire State Manufacturing Index (Feb)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	4.50	4.80	Monthly
US	17:00	NAHB Housing Market Index (Feb)	✓	74.00	75.00	Monthly
US	23:00	Total Net TIC Flows (Dec)	\checkmark	-USD0.40bn	USD73.10bn	Monthly
US	23:00	Net Long-Term TIC Flows (Dec)	$\checkmark\checkmark$	USD25.50bn	USD22.90bn	Monthly
Note: V V High	√√ Mar	tium √Low				

Note: ✓ ✓ ✓ High ✓ ✓ Medium ✓ Low

Disclaimer

This report and its contents are confidential, privileged and only for the information of the intended recipient. GTC (Pty) Ltd make no representations or warranties in respect of this report or its content and will not be liable for any loss or damage of any nature arising from this report, the content thereof, your reliance thereon its unauthorised use or any electronic viruses associated therewith. Please note that content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of GTC (Pty) Ltd. This report is proprietary to GTC (Pty) Ltd and you may not copy or distribute the report without the prior written consent of the authors. Any feedback or contributions are most welcome.

formerly Grant Thornton Capital

a GTC, The Wanderers Office Park 52 Corlett Drive, Illovo, 2196 **p** P O Box 55118, Illovo, 2116 GTC is nationally represented in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

t +27 (0) 10 597 6800 f+27 (0) 10 597 6801 w www.gtc.co.za

GTC (Pty) Ltd. reg. no. 1996/001488/07 directors: G.K. Mockler, F.Dildar

An Authorised Financial Services Provider **FSP no.** 731