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INDUSTRY DATA SHEET

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FUEL SUBSIDY REMOVAL: A TEST OF POLITICAL WILL, A SHOCKER TO THE CABALS, AND A TEST OF PATRIOTISM!

Azeez Taofeek Olatunbosun, FCCA, ACIT.



would like to begin by commiserating with my fellow average Nigerians on the hardships currently being faced, resulting from President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's inaugural speech proclamation that "subsidy is gone." Indeed, the hardship has engendered a sentiment among many that we are entering another regime of perpetual poverty, squalor, and insensitive governance.

This feeling is magnified due to our current economic woes, further aggravated by the regrettable Naira redesign policy, anti-business interest rates, forex racketeering, and skyrocketing inflation!

It is expected that Nigerians will rise and vehemently protest the subsidy removal during these trying times, especially considering the poverty level now, compared to that of 2012. In fact, it is anticipated that our reactions will surpass the demonstrations at Gani Fawehinmi Park and other strategic locations nationwide in 2023. However, it has become abundantly clear to many across all strata of Nigeria that the subsidy regime has been one of the major impediments to our development and is no longer sustainable. Hence, our united echo now: "subsidy must go."

Some political classes have condemned the resistance to former President Goodluck Jonathan's attempt to remove the subsidy as politically motivated, solely to discredit his government. The truth is, there was a low level of public enlightenment then, and the people lacked trust in the government, especially regarding the activities of the minister and the Ministry of Petroleum Resources at the time.

Although many Nigerians hold the opinion that the President should not have made the pronouncement as he did on May 29, I believe that the timing was right to thwart the cabals' potential game plans, plans which had previously obliterated PMB's administration's political will to remove the subsidy, particularly when the price of crude oil was as low as 26 dollars per barrel.

No doubt, removing the subsidy before discussing interventionist measures is akin to "putting the cart before the horse." However, "the fox must be chased away first before blaming the hen for wandering into the bush."

I believe if President Tinubu were to stay in office for 100 days without making this pronouncement in the name of consultations, the subsidy would never be removed due to the influence and blackmail of the few elites who have held the country hostage over the years.

The government is now examining measures to cushion the impact of the removal, and I am confident that something substantial will be done, considering this is the first major test of an administration less than a week in office. Let's give the government the benefit of the doubt.

With over 95% of our revenue going towards debt servicing and over 133 million Nigerians living in multidimensional poverty, it is clear that it would be catastrophic to continue borrowing funds to subsidize fuel for neighboring countries such as Benin Republic, Cameroon, Niger, etc. (the trade paths of some unpatriotic oil cabals). That's why I commend the four major contenders in the last presidential election for declaring that the subsidy would be the first thing to be eliminated if elected.



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To my fellow citizens, I implore you to exercise perseverance, calm, and patriotism. Let's see this as a significant sacrifice towards our journey of building a Nigeria that works for all Nigerians. Let us believe that this step is a move in the right direction to renew our hope. I have no doubt that the outcome of the consultations among the government, labor unions, and other relevant stakeholders will bring relief to all.

It is essential to mention that oil marketers should introspect and exhibit patriotism at this time. I find it insincere and wicked that fuel queues resumed nationwide less than 24 hours after the President's inaugural address. The announcement did not affect the existing stock in tanks, for goodness sake!

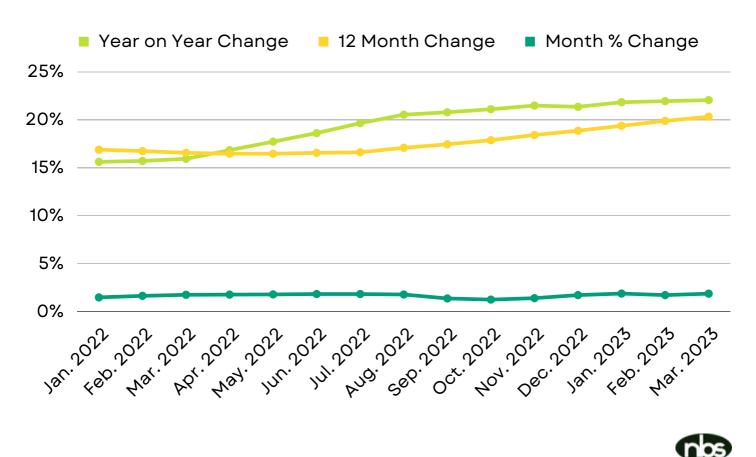
I listened to the GMD NNPC, who said the government owes the marketers #2.8trillion, to be recovered from the market. Who is that market? The average and already impoverished Nigerian! I believe it would be unfair, unjust, and cruel to suddenly hike the price from #195 per liter to over #500. I urge the GMD NNPC and the CEO NMDPRA to reconsider and ensure they find themselves on the right side of history.

Nigerians have suffered over the years and continue to do so. Policy makers and major stakeholders in the downstream oil and gas business should introspect and work towards reasonable pricing that would alleviate this hardship as the government swiftly brings forth its interventionist measures.

Finally, I wish to commend my fellow Nigerians for their understanding, perseverance, patience, and patriotism during these trying times. Hard times, they say, do not last forever. I believe the gains are in sight, and I pray for us all to be alive to witness them, and the Nigeria of our dreams. May God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria!

Azeez Taofeek Olatunbosun, FCCA, ACIT. (bosunazeez2000@yahoo.com) wrote in from Lagos. He is an experienced petroleum downstream professional with many years of experience. The views and opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author. MARKETS WATCH

INFLATION



EQUITIES MARKET UPDATE

SECTOR	May. 26	Jun. 2	Weekly Change	WTD	MTD	QTD	YTD
NSE 30	1915.50	2019.83	104.33	5.45	-0.06%	4.48%	9.62%
Consumer Goods	780.21	846.68	66.47	8.52	-0.16%	20.48%	43.77%
Oil & Gas	563.65	622.61	58.96	10.46	4.47%	21.88%	34.62%
Banking	495.99	520.23	24.24	4.89	-0.62%	14.85%	24.61%
Industrial	2349.92	2486.46	136.54	5.81	-0.07%	1.22%	3.48%
Insurance	209.62	212.15	2.53	1.21	1.49%	19.51%	21.67%



MARKETS WATCH

FOREX RATES - INTERBANK I & E MARKET

NGN	May. 29	May. 30	May. 31	Jun. 1	Jun. 2
Minimum	-	465.00	465.00	-	465.00
Maximum	-	466.00	466.00	-	466.00
Interbank Official Closing (FX Rate (\$/N))	-	465.00	464.50	-	465.00

CLOSING USD / NGN FX RATES

INTERBANK (CLOSING IND)	Bid	Offer	Market Closing FX Rate (\$/NGN)
May. 29	-	-	-
May. 30	465.00	466.00	461.50
May. 31	465.00	466.00	461.50
Jun. 1	-	-	-
Jun. 2	465.00	466.00	461.50



FOREX RATES - PARALLEL MARKET

NGN	May. 29	May. 30	May. 31	Jun. 1	Jun. 2
USD					
GBP					
EURO					

abokiFX



AVERAGE EX-DEPOT PRICES (NAIRA/LITRE)

30 MAY - 2 JUNE 2023

30-MAY-23

Product	Warri/Oghara Hub	Calabar Hub	PHC Hub	Satellite Hub	Ibafon/Tincan Hub	Apapa Hub
PMS	N/A	N/A	N/A	322.50	N/A	395.00
AGO	567.50	630.00	575.00	573.50	612.00	573.80
DPK	N/A	N/A	N/A	642.50	640.00	650.00

31-MAY-23

Product	Warri/Oghara Hub	Calabar Hub	PHC Hub	Satellite Hub	Ibafon/Tincan Hub	Apapa Hub
PMS	N/A	497.70	N/A	423.33	434.50	451.50
AGO	580.00	630.00	575.00	572.70	567.40	562.80
DPK	630.00	N/A	N/A	630.00	630.00	630.00

2-JUN-23

Product	Warri/Oghara	Calabar Hub	PHC Hub	Satellite Hub	Ibafon/Tincan	Apapa Hub
	Hub				Hub	
PMS	481.67	486.90	500.00	450.00	465.00	462.50
AGO	576.67	627.50	575.00	566.20	563.75	565.80
DPK	630.00	N/A	N/A	630.00	630.00	630.00





AVERAGE WEEKLY PRICES

Available on the Argus Publications App

Combined Description	Gasoline Eurobob Delivered West Africa	Jet/Kerosine Delivered West Africa \$/t	Gasoil Diesel 1000ppm Delivered West Africa
Description	\$/t	West Amer of	\$/t
Week 15 2023	958.65	869.38	813.19
Week 16 2023	902.35	831.45	778.10
Week 17 2023	851.67	782.00	726.70
Week 18 2023	815.27	734.75	674.50
Week 19 2023	836.49	753.81	694.25
Week 20 2023	835.00	756.95	701.00
Week 21 2023	878.03	764.50	712.20
Week 22 2023	842.70	748.69	704.44

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WEST AFRICAN PUMP PRICES

Global Petrol Prices.com

PMS				
Country	USD/Litre	Naira/Litre (Blended rate of 1USD = 615.00 NGN)		
Nigeria	0.86	526.44		
Cameroon	1.19	733.08		
Benin	1.06	652.52		
Sierra Leone	1.09	672.20		
Togo	1.14	702.95		
Burkina Faso	1.39	853.62		
Ivory Coast	1.33	818.57		
Ghana	1.17	721.40		
Guinea	1.40	860.39		
Mali	1.41	869.61		
Senegal	1.62	994.46		
Liberia	1.00	616.23		

AGO				
Country	USD/Litre	Naira/Litre (Blended rate of 1USD = 615.00 NGN)		
Nigeria	1.21	744.77		
Cameroon	1.18	723.24		
Benin	1.14	702.95		
Sierra Leone	1.09	672.20		
Togo	1.27	778.59		
Burkina Faso	1.10	676.50		
Ivory Coast	1.07	658.05		
Ghana	1.19	730.62		
Guinea	1.40	860.39		
Mali	1.41	867.77		
Senegal	1.23	758.30		
Liberia	1.09	671.58		

Note:

PMS Pump Prices

- All USD per litre prices are sourced from Globalpetrolprices.com EXCEPT for Nigeria.
- Naira per litre price for ALL was calculated by MOMAN using blended rate 1 USD = 615NGN.

AGO Pump Prices

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- Naira per litre price for ALL was calculated by MOMAN using blended rate 1 USD = 615NGN.