PRIMETime

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Eddies of Headwinds

1. Today's Trading Playbook

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Mona Bedeir | Chief Economist <u>mbedeir@egy.primegroup.org</u>

Like most central banks in emerging markets (EMs), the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the CBE heads into its fifth meeting of the year facing a challenging dilemma of how to balance between maintaining a supportive monetary policy stance amid subdued demand, new COVID-19 variant threats, and avoiding de-anchoring of inflation expectations. The CBE has to consider the following eddies of headwinds for not only the upcoming decision but also for the medium-run outlook:

Inflation pressures may turn to be transitory for now, but risks are still emerging: We see inflation peaking in July and August, mainly due to electricity and fuel price hikes, in addition to the unfavorable base effect, but it will remain within the CBE's target $7\% \pm 2\%$. This comes before it eases towards the edge of 4% by end of 2021, mainly thanks to the favorable base effect. Yet, anecdotal evidence is accumulating that price pressures faced by companies are increasing. These pressures, as reported in the PMI survey, peaked in June and started to ease in July. The correlation between producer price inflation and consumer price inflation is currently weakened by weak demand. However, this all depends on the continuity of the current rally in global commodity prices, coupled with supply chains disruption.

Tightening monetary policy in EMs: Inflation continues to rise across the world as in EMs. However, it's still difficult to say with much certainty how persistent it is or for how long it's going to last, given the mixed dynamics that currently agitate its outlook. Furthermore, the monetary policy cycle for EMs has shifted notably toward a hawkish stance. Central banks in countries like Russia, Brazil, and Turkey hiked rates in recent months beyond even the market expectations as a preemptive act against de-anchoring inflation expectations and due to concerns over faster-than-expected monetary policy normalization in developed economies.

Delta variant and the fragility of the economic recovery: The broad-based and sustained recovery is still missing as the PMI index fell again in July 2021 to 49.1 from 49.9 in June 2021, marking eight consecutive months of contraction in non-oil private-sector activity. The reading came to reflect the fragility of the economic recovery given the weak demand and growing risks of the spread of the Delta variant, accompanied by a low vaccination rate.





Global commodity prices and supply chains are feeding inflation and breaking recovery: At the time the government begins studying raising the price of subsidized bread (which was estimated to cost EGP44bn in FY22), global prices of grains and oilseeds went back to rally in August on the backdrop of combining heat, drought, and floods that tightened the supply outlook. Moreover, global PMI and manufacturing surveys indicated that activity across most Southeast Asia and China fell in July, which will continue to weigh on the prices of imported inputs and the producers' sentiment to expand their capacity.

Thus, we expect that the CBE will opt to keep interest rates on hold today and until Q4 2021, where there is limited room for a small rate cut by late 2021.

Now, on to the top news and analysis for the day.

2. Top News & Analysis

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MACRO NEWS

The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) stressed the need for banks to reconsider reducing fees and expenses on dormant accounts to the lowest possible level, especially accounts with low balances and accounts opened using simplified customer identification rules. (<u>CBE</u>)

Egypt will next week receive its first shipment of Johnson & Johnson vaccines as well as the final 1.9mn doses of Oxford / AstraZeneca allocated under the Gavi / Covax program. (MoH)

Egypt's foreign reserves inched up to USD40.61bn in July from USD40.58bn in June. We will publish our report soon. (<u>CBE</u>)

CORPORATE NEWS

GB Auto [AUTO] has decided not to renew the distribution agreement with the Chinese manufacturing company and the owner of Geely car brand, for strategic reasons. (Company disclosure)

Elsewedy Electric [SWDY] signed a contract to execute the internal electricity network for Middle Egypt Electricity Distribution Co. in East Owenat region. This turnkey project amounts to EGP190mn. Back in May 2021, SWDY signed another turnkey contract worth EGP475mn in East Owenat region. The total contracts of projects signed in East Owenat region is EGP665mn. (Company disclosure) SWDY trades at a TTM P/E of 5.6x.

Contact Financial Holding [CNFN] is studying to join the CBE's real estate initiative. (<u>Arab Finance</u>)





Edita Food Industries [EFID] plans to open its factory in Morocco in Q4 2021. (Al-Borsa)

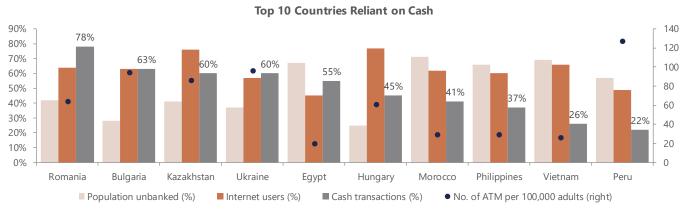
GLOBAL NEWS

Brazil's central bank raised its key interest rate by a full percentage point on Wednesday for the first time since 2003 and pledged to step on the policy tightening accelerator even harder to ensure inflation is pulled back toward target next year. (Reuters)

Short-term volatility in emerging markets currencies will linger as the jury is still out on the timing of U.S. stimulus tapering and as investors support currencies with greater potential for strength, a Reuters's poll found. (Reuters)

3. CHART OF THE DAY TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sherif El Etr | Equity Analyst seletr@eqv.primegroup.org



Source: MerchantMachine.

Although the pandemic forced a shift in consumer's as well as government's perspectives on cashless transactions, urging a shift in transactions behavior, still Egypt has a long way to go moving into a cashless society. Based on MerchantMachine, a UK-based company monitoring card payments evolution, Egypt ranks amongst the most economies reliant on cash transactions.





4. MARKETS PERFORMANCE

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Curre	Current equity market cap (EGPbn) 703.1				703.1	Equity turnover (EGPmn): Last, ytd avg.			1,763.9	1,178.6	
				daily chg.	ytd chg.					daily chg.	ytd chg.
Ħ	7	EGX 30	10,718.89	(0.07%)	(1.17%)	\	71	Gold	1,811.74	0.07%	(4.69%)
	7	EGX 30 TR	4,174.45	0.09%	0.06%		7	Silver	25.38	(0.56%)	(3.98%)
	71	EGX 70 EWI	2,757.02	0.98%	28.52%	8	7	Brent Oil	70.38	(0.33%)	35.42%
	71	EGX 100 EWI	3,737.99	0.75%	20.67%		7	WTI	68.15	(0.18%)	40.21%
	71	DFMGI	2,813.20	0.63%	12.89%	•	7	Natural Gas	4.16	(0.22%)	63.41%
	7	ADSMI	7,405.09	(0.38%)	46.63%	EGP	7	USD/EGP	15.69	(0.01%)	(0.26%)
5593	7	TASI	11,162.38	(0.41%)	28.46%	€	7	EUR/USD	1.18	(0.03%)	(3.13%)
	71	QE Index	10,858.42	0.14%	4.05%	£	7	GBP/USD	1.39	(0.07%)	1.53%
% <u> </u>	7	S&P 500	4,402.66	(0.46%)	17.21%	¥	71	USD/JPY	109.48	0.20%	6.25%
	7	Dow 30	34,792.67	(0.92%)	13.68%	Ħ	7	6M TB yield	13.15	(8)	42
	7	NASDAQ	14,780.53	0.13%	14.68%		7	1Y TB yield	13.25	(6)	48
	7	VIX	17.97	(0.39%)	(21.01%)		7	10Y TB yield	14.80	(2)	41
10	7	STOXX 50	4,144.90	0.65%	16.67%		71	2Y TB yield	0.18	0	5
EM	7	MSCI Emerging	1,303.99	0.76%	0.99%		71	10Y TB yield	1.18	1	25
FM	7	MSCI Frontier	646.30	(0.04%)	13.06%		7	30Y TB yield	1.84	(1)	18

^{*} As of market close, except for commodities and currencies at 8.37am CLT. Change in Treasuries is in basis points.

Source: Bloomberg, CBE.

5. LATEST EGX VALUATION MULTIPLES

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<u>Find out</u> how your favorite stocks compare to the rest of the market.

6. KEY DATES TABLE OF CONTENTS

DATE	TICKER	TYPE	EVENT
5-Aug-21 5-Aug-21	DAPH	MPC Meeting EGM	Determining the CBE's policy rate. Increasing the capital from EGP249.48mn to EGP299.37mn and amending articles 4, 6 & 7 of the bylaws.
8-Aug-21	SKPC	EGM	Approving increasing the issued capital and amending articles 6 & 7 of the bylaws.
10-Aug-21	ETEL	Conference Call	Discussing Q2 2021 earnings.
10-Aug-21	OFH	OGM	Discussing the company's establishment expenses and other agenda items.
10-Aug-21	ORAS	Cash dividend	Date for paying out a dividend of USD0.2313/share.
10-Aug-21	RTVC	EGM	Discussing an offer for subsidiary Ambian for Tourism Investment.
10-Aug-21	HELI		Deadline for turning in the conditions brochure for Heliopark.
10-Aug-21	NBKE	BoD meeting	Discussing delisting.
11-Aug-21	ISPH	BoD meeting	Discussing Q2 financial results.
14-Aug-21	HELI	OGM	Approving the estimated budget of FY 2021/22.
14-Aug-21	HELI	EGM	Amending articles of the bylaws.
15-Aug-21	COMI	Stock dividend	The deadline for eligibility for a 0.33-for-1 stock dividend.



DATE

PUBLISHED REPORT



16-Aug-21	COMI	Stock dividend	Date for distributing a 0.33-for-1 stock dividend.
18-Aug-21	MOIN	OGM	Authorizing the board of directors to appoint a new member.
18-Aug-21	MOIN	EGM	Amending article 21 of the bylaws.
21-Aug-21	ELNA	OGM	Approving the financial statements and other agenda items.
22-Aug-21	PRCL	OGM	Reshuffling the board and discussing other agenda items.
22-Aug-21	PRCL	EGM	Amending the articles of association.
24-Aug-21	GOCO	OGM	Approving the financial statements ending 31 Dec. 2020 and the proposed dividend.
25-Aug-21	NCCW	EGM	Approving increasing the issued capital and amending articles 6 & 7 of the bylaws.
26-Aug-21	ELWA	OGM	Approving the financial statements ending 31 Dec. 2020 and the proposed dividend.
30-Aug-21	EGTS	OGM	Approving the financial statements and other agenda items.
31-Aug-21	MBSC	Cash dividend	The deadline for eligibility for a dividend of EGP1.5/share.

7. LATEST RESEARCH TABLE OF CONTENTS

DATE	I ODLIGITED KEI OKI
4-Aug-21	MACROView – Constrained Recovery
26-Jul-21	EFG Hermes Holding [HRHO] – FV and 12MPT Adjustment to Bonus Share Action
13-Jul-21	Commercial International Bank [COMI] – Tamed Credit Provisions Spur Annual Growth
8-Jul-21	MACROView – Inflation Edged Up, As Expected
8-Jul-21	MACROView – External Buffers Still Powering Ahead
6-Jul-21	MACROView – A Steady and Slow Recovery in the Making
5-July-21	Abu Qir Fertilizers [ABUK] – Talking U
16-June-21	B Investments Holding [BINV] – Strong Financials, Growing Investments
14-June-21	Al-Shams Housing & Development [ELSH] – Earnings Flattened by Factoring Cost
10-June-21	MACROView – Inflation Risk Rising, but Still Within Target
8-June-21	TAKEStock – Telecom Egypt [ETEL] – Show Me the Dividends
6-June-21	MACROView – Further Enhancement
3-June-21	MACROView – Contraction Eased
23-May-21	Orascom Construction [ORAS] – Earnings Short of Our Estimates
23-May-21	CI Capital Holding [CICH] – Earnings Dented by One-off ESOP Expense
22-May-21	Commercial International Bank [COMI] – Earnings Growth Driven by Lower Provisions
20-May-21	Crédit Agricole Egypt (CAE) [CIEB] – Slowing Lending Inhibits Earnings Growth
20-May-21	EFG Hermes Holding [HRHO] – Recovery Signs; Back on Track
18-May-21	B Investments Holding [BINV] – Exits Kick Off, Unlocking Value
18-May-21	Elsewedy Electric [SWDY] – Financials promise a buoyant year ahead



17-May-21	Misr Chemical Industries [MICH] – Another Chapter of Strong Annual Growth
11-May-21	MACROView – Inflation Eased but Stage Still Set for a Pick-Up
9-May-21	MACROView – Stability Prevailed
6-May-21	MACROView – The Road to Recovery Gets Longer
18-Apr-21	MACROView – Challenges Remain Daunting
13-Apr-21	Crédit Agricole Egypt (CAE) [CIEB] – The Value Algorithm
12-Apr-21	Orascom Construction [ORAS] - Rich in Value
11-Apr-21	MACROView - Monthly Reading Pressured By Seasonality
6-Apr-21	MACROView – FX Assets Well Placed to Mitigate Potential Risks
6-Apr-21	MACROView – Still Downbeat
28-Mar-21	Taaleem Management Services [TALM] – Enriching the Education Sector
18-Mar-21	EFG Hermes Holding [HRHO] – Challenging Year, Yet Growth Continues
10-Mar-21	MACROView – Still Below the Target, but Global Headwinds Cloud the Horizon
8-Mar-21	MACROView – Buffers Grew Despite Signs of Unwelcome Tightening of Financial Conditions
7-Mar-21	Al-Shams Housing & Development [ELSH] – Making Hay While the Sun Shines
3-Mar-21	MACROView – Weak Demand Still Weighing on the Rebound Trajectory
2-Mar-21	MACROView – Commodity Supercycle: Real or Hype?
1-Mar-21	Commercial International Bank [COMI] – Earnings Beat Despite Higher Provisions
25-Feb-21	Elsewedy Electric [SWDY] – Strong Set of Results Driven by Turnkey
22-Feb-21	CI Capital Holding [CICH] – Got the Hit, Yet Better Than Expected
10-Feb-21	MACROView – Disinflation Continues Amid Acceleration in Global Commodity Prices
8-Feb-21	Misr Chemical Industries [MICH] – Annually Wild, Quarterly Tamed
4-Feb-21	MACROView – External Buffers Are Still Restoring Grounds
3-Feb-21	MACROView – A Fragile Improvement but Favorable Sentiment
3-Feb-21	MACROView – External Woes vs. Cautious Optimism
1-Feb-21	STANDPoint – Egypt 2021 Investing Playbook
14-Jan-21	CI Capital Holding [CICH] - New Expansions = Further Growth
10-Jan-21	MACROView – Below End-of-Year Target
6-Jan-21	MACROView – On the Path to Further Recovery
5-Jan-21	MACROView – Rutted Road to Recovery
28-Dec-20	Elsewedy Electric [SWDY] - More Growth to Come
22-Dec-20	EFG Hermes Holding [HRHO] – Blueprinting Its Eminence





16-Dec-20	CIB [COMI] – Earnings beat despite higher provisions
10-Dec-20	MACROView – The Highest Reading in Seven Months
7-Dec-20	MACROView – Restored Ground
6-Dec-20	MACROView – Lost Momentum
3-Dec-20	MACROView – Not as Severe as Expected but All Eyes on the Scars
25-Nov-20	Misr Chemical Industries [MICH] – Pandemic Proof
10-Nov-20	MACROView – An expected rise as the new school year began
4-Nov-20	MACROView – The Stars Seem to Be Aligned for International Reserves
3-Nov-20	MACROView – The Highest Reading in Six Years
25-Oct-20	CIB [COMI] – Short-term pain for longer-term gain
11-Oct-20	MACROView – Disinflationary trend interrupted
11-Oct-20	MACROView – External strains are slacking and reserves are growing
6-Oct-20	CIB [COMI] - A Good Bet for the "Risk On" Mode
5-Oct-20	MACROView – Egypt's recovery is broadening
10-Sep-20	MACROView – A Stunning Chapter Towards Targets
8-Sep-20	MACROView – Crawling Out of the Troughs
3-Sep-20	MACROView – Job losses and the bumpy road to recovery
18-Aug-20	Oriental Weavers Carpet [ORWE] – Q2 2020 Results
13-Aug-20	Credit Agricole Egypt [CIEB] – Q2 2020 Results
10-Aug-20	MACROView – Muted inflation environment still dominates
9-Aug-20	MACROView – Recovery of FX revenues is a long-term goal, but the economy is still well armed





Prime Securities

Shawkat El Maraghy

Managing Director

T+20233005622

SElmaraghy@egy.primegroup.org

Sales

Mohamed Ezzat

Head of Sales &Branches T +20233005784

MEzzat@egy.primegroup.org

Mohamed Ashmawy

Head of Institutional Sales **T** +20233005612

MAshmawy@egy.primegroup.org

Amr Alaa CFTe

Team Head-Institutional Desk T +20233005609

AAlaa@egy.primegroup.org

Mohamed ElMetwaly

Manager

T +20233005610

MElmetwaly@egy.primegroup.org

Emad El Safoury

Manager

T +20233005624

EElsafoury@egy.primegroup.org

Shawkat Raslan

Heliopolis Branch Manager

T +20233008130

SRaslan@eqv.primegroup.org

Nashwa Abuelatta

Alexandria Branch Manager

T +20233005173

NAbuelatta@egy.primegroup.org

Research

Amr Hussein Elalfy CFA

Head of Research **T** +20233005724

AElalfy@egy.primegroup.org

Head Office

Prime Securities S.A.E.

RegulatedbyFRALicenseNo.179. Member of the Egyptian Exchange 2WadiElnil St., LibertyTower, 7th Fl. Mohandessin, Giza, Egypt

T +20233005700/770/650/649

F +20237607543

Branches

Heliopolis

7ElhegazSquare Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt

T +20227770600

F +20227770604

Alexandria

7AlbertAlAwalSt. Smouha, Alexandria, Egypt

T +20233008170

F +20233054622

Website

www.primeholdingco.com

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