

Thursday 25 August 2022





The current environment is unique in recent times as it is providing a substantial forewarning of a marked global economic slowdown, to the potential point of, or actual, recession, as opposed to the recessions of the pandemic and the 2008/09 financial crisis, which were sudden and not possible to prepare for. The lengthy preparation markets are having as a consequence of monetary policy communications from a spread of Central Banks, namely that inflation is the priority, not growth, has caused risk aversion to increase towards assets which are seen to perform substantially more poorly in times of weakening economic activity (but often have large upwards swings in accelerating economic growth periods). These risk assets include equities, EM portfolio assets and EM currencies, which have deteriorated in attraction for investors in favour of safe havens, key of which tend to be US treasuries. Consequently, the US dollar has undergone a long period of strength since April, when global economic growth forecasts began being widely, and notably revised down for this year and next year. The global interest rate hiking cycle is not near its end, while evidence of weakening economic activity is apparent around the globe, and this lengthy process to contain decades high inflation back to within targets, with no clear timing of when this will happen, is increasing uncertainty, in turn further supporting risk aversion (or risk-off).

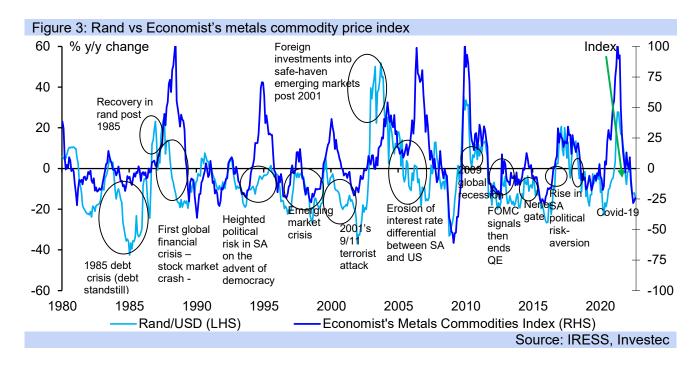
The strengthening US dollar since April has culminated in it exceeding the value of the euro and is the key reason for the rand's weakness against the US dollar since April. The rand reached R14.45/USD mid-April

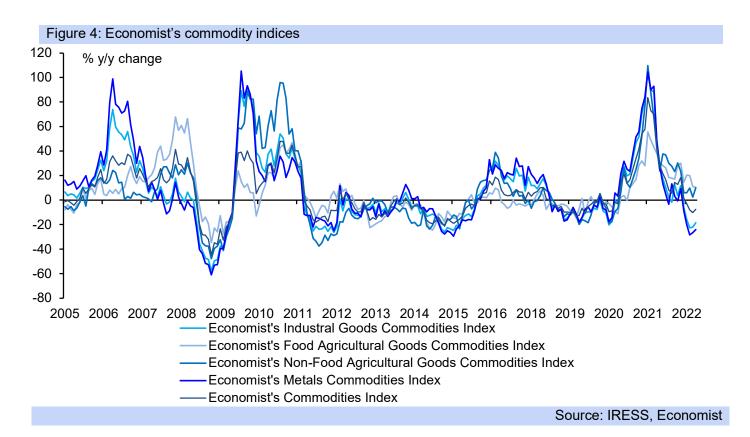
Figure 2: Fx	Figure 2: Exchange rate forecasts – averages for the expected case											
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	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.23	Q4.23	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24
USD/ZAR	15.21	15.59	16.60	15.80	15.60	16.00	16.40	15.90	15.70	16.20	16.70	16.20
GBP/ZAR	20.40	19.59	19.87	18.80	18.64	19.28	20.09	19.88	20.10	21.06	22.55	22.36
EUR/ZAR	17.07	16.60	16.88	16.35	16.46	16.96	17.55	17.33	18.06	19.12	20.04	19.93
ZAR/JPY	7.65	8.33	8.32	8.70	8.49	8.06	7.74	7.89	7.83	7.28	6.89	6.79
GBP/USD	1.34	1.26	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.25	1.28	1.30	1.35	1.38
EUR/USD	1.12	1.06	1.02	1.04	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23
USD/JPY	116	130	138	138	133	129	127	126	123	118	115	110
	Note: averages, Source: Investec, Iress											



Thursday 25 August 2022





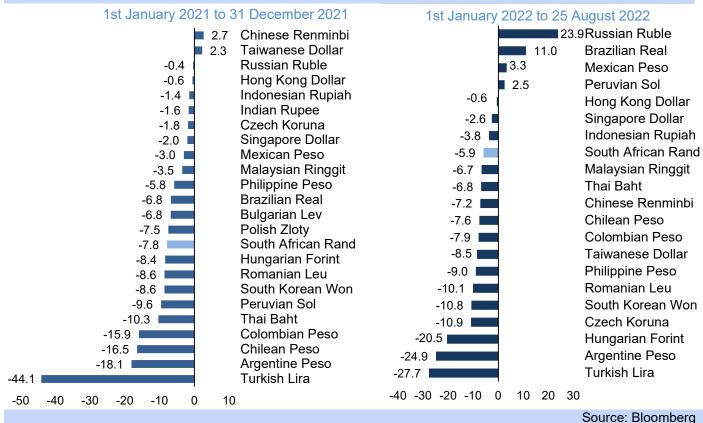




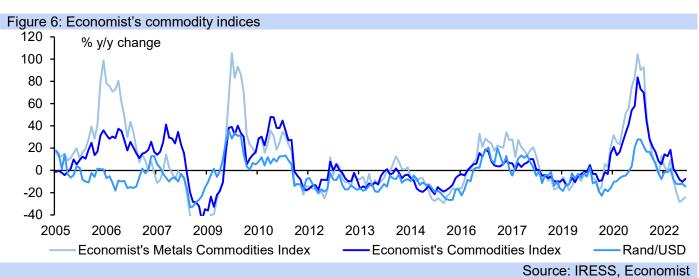
Thursday 25 August 2022



Figure 5: Commodity currency depreciation (-) %, appreciation (+) %



when the USD was at 1.09 to the EUR and is now at R16.84/USD with the USD at 1.00 to the EUR. About R1.50/USD of this depreciation is due to the USD strength, and a large portion of the remainder to the general





Thursday 25 August 2022



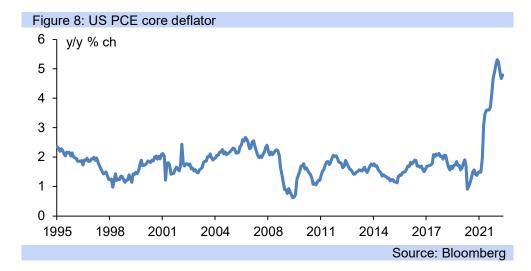
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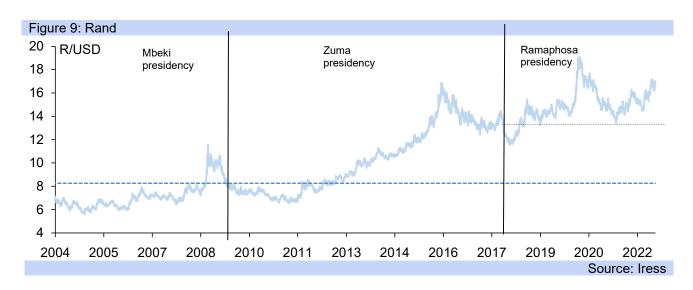






sell-off of EM assets and currencies, as well as the weakness of metals commodities prices, which also afflicts the rand as it is a commodities currency.

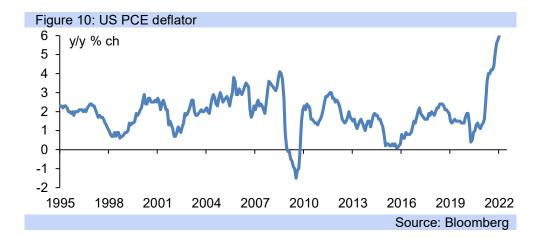
However, the majority of the drivers of the rand's weakness (or strength) in the short- to medium-term is typically due to global factors. This does not mean that domestic factors do not have an effect, indeed they can have very substantial effects, particularly the political and financial market upheaval caused by Nenegate, the negative impact of weak domestic growth, credit rating downgrades, a weakening investor environment, state capture and the weakening fundamentals of the economy (among other domestic factors). However, global events also tend to have large effects, such as seasonal and cyclical factors, as well as global shocks, although the latter is typically sudden, not long lasting as the current high inflationary, rising interest rates and weakening economic growth environment is. 2021 saw a recovery in significant part from the global pandemic's economic effects, although not on the world's supply chains, but 2022 saw the shock of the Russian/Ukraine war, with resulting sanctions over the past six months worsening, intensifying the negative effect, along with the economic downturn in China. Global financial markets are risk averse

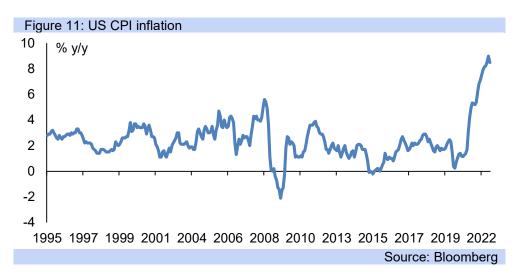


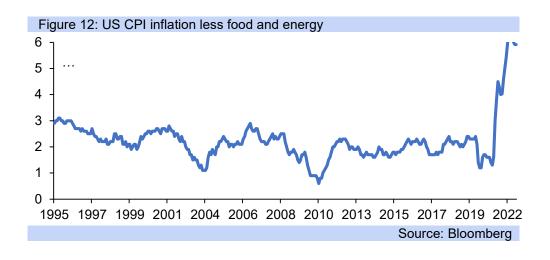


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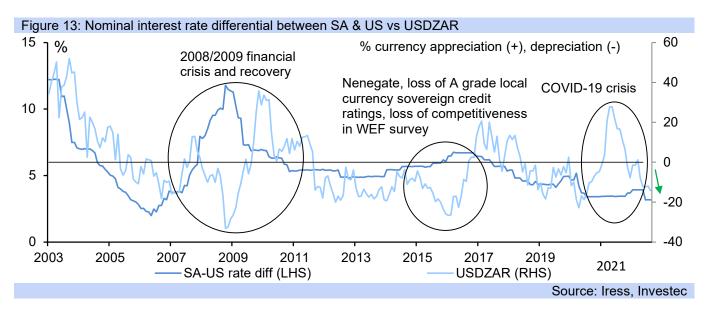






Thursday 25 August 2022





having faced multiple shocks to the system, which are not seen as over yet with global inflation yet to come under control. As soon as markets gain some certainty on the likely turn in the global economic outlook, end to the US, and global, upwards rate hike cycle and indications of potential for economic recovery, risk aversion levels will likely fade towards a more neutral level of investor confidence, reducing the pressure on risk assets.

Currently the rand averages around R16.75/USD this quarter, against our forecast of R16.60/USD, in what has been a volatile quarter, but also one of mainly rand weakness against the USD. The outlook remains at risk of further shocks, with Europe's gas supplies at risk, and the outlook for inflation for Europe also of key concern. The rand is likely to remain highly volatile, affected significantly by economic data and policy decisions in the US in particular, with the US possibly seeing the quickest economic recovery in 2023, although uncertainty levels are high currently.

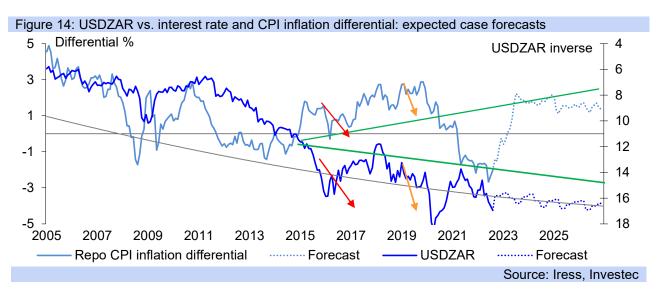








Figure 15: Ke	ey official intere	st rates (%, en	d quarter)			
	US Fed funds	Eurozone refi rate	Eurozone deposit rate	UK Bank rate	Australia cash rate	
Current	2.25-2.50	0.50	0.00	1.75	1.85	
2022						
Q1	0.25-0.50	0.00	-0.50	0.75	0.10	
Q2	1.50-1.75	0.00	-0.50	1.25	0.85	
Q3	2.75-3.00	0.75	0.50	2.25	2.35	
Q4	3.00-3.25	1.25	1.00	2.50	2.75	
2023						
Q1	3.00-3.25	1.25	1.00	2.50	2.75	
Q2	3.00-3.25	1.25	1.00	2.00	2.75	
Q3	2.50-2.75	1.25	1.00	1.50	2.75	
Q4	2.25-2.50	1.25	1.00	1.50	2.75	
			_			

Source:	Macrobond,	Investec UK

Figure 16: Reuters August 2022 Foreign exchange rates poll: USDZAR											
Release/Effective Date	31 Aug 2022	31 Oct 2022	31 Jan 23	31 Jul 2023							
Median	16.6700	16.6000	16.3690	16.2000							
High	17.5000	18.0000	17.7300	18.0000							
Low	16.2900	15.9000	15.5000	15.0000							
No. of forecasts	21	25	25	23							
				Source: Reuters							

Figure 17: Target federal funds rate at	year-end (%)			
Midpoint of target range or target level (%)	2022	2023	2024	Longer Run
4.500				
4.375		1		
4.250				
4.125		4	1	
4.000				
3.875	1	4	1	
3.750				
3.625	4	7	2	
3.500				
3.375	8	1	8	
3.250				
3.125	5		2	
3.000				2
2.875		1	2	
2.750				
2.625				
2.500				7
2.375				1
2.250			1	6
2.125			1	
2.000				1
		So	urce: Federal Re	serve Government



Thursday 25 August 2022



Figure 18: Exchange rate history and forecast: annual averages												
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026			
EURUSD	1.18	1.12	1.14	1.19	1.06	1.07	1.19	1.25	1.25			
EURGBP	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.86	0.85	0.88	0.90	0.88	0.87			
GBPEUR	1.13	1.14	1.13	1.16	1.18	1.14	1.12	1.13	1.14			
GBPUSD	1.33	1.28	1.28	1.38	1.25	1.22	1.33	1.42	1.43			
USDJPY	110	109	107	110	130	129	117	107	107			
EURJPY	130	122	122	130	138	137	138	134	134			
GBPJPY	147	139	137	151	162	157	154	152	153			
EURCHF	1.16	1.11	1.07	1.09	1.01	1.00	1.08	1.14	1.14			
USDCHF	0.98	0.99	0.94	0.92	0.94	0.92	0.91	0.91	0.91			
GBPCHF	1.31	1.27	1.20	1.26	1.18	1.12	1.21	1.29	1.30			
AUDUSD	0.75	0.70	0.69	0.75	0.71	0.75	0.78	0.78	0.78			
EURAUD	1.58	1.61	1.66	1.58	1.50	1.43	1.53	1.60	1.60			
AUDJPY	83	76	74	82	92	96	91	83	83			
GBPAUD	1.79	1.84	1.86	1.83	1.76	1.63	1.70	1.82	1.83			
ZARUSD	13.24	14.44	16.46	14.79	15.80	15.98	16.20	16.43	16.53			
ZARGBP	17.64	18.44	21.10	20.34	19.67	19.47	21.51	23.28	23.63			
ZAREUR	15.61	16.17	18.77	17.49	16.72	17.07	19.28	20.53	20.66			
JPYZAR	8.38	7.55	6.52	7.43	8.25	8.05	7.20	6.52	6.48			
ZARCHF	13.53	14.54	17.54	16.18	16.73	17.42	17.80	18.05	18.16			
ZARAUD	9.88	10.04	11.35	11.11	11.18	11.93	12.64	12.81	12.89			
							Source	: IRESS,	Investec			



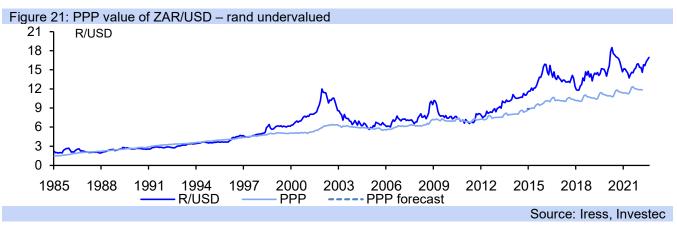


Thursday 25 August 2022



Figure 20: Exchange rate history and forecast: quarterly averages

	2021				2022				2023			
	Q1.21	Q2.21	Q3.21	Q4.21	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.22	Q4.23
EURUSD	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.14	1.12	1.06	1.02	1.04	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.09
EURGBP	0.88	0.86	0.86	0.85	0.84	0.85	0.85	0.87	88.0	0.88	0.87	0.87
GBPEUR	1.14	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.15	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.15
GBPUSD	1.38	1.40	1.38	1.35	1.34	1.26	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.25
USDJPY	106	109	110	114	116	130	138	138	133	129	127	126
EURJPY	128	132	130	130	131	138	140	142	140	137	136	137
GBPJPY	146	153	152	153	156	163	165	164	158	155	156	157
EURCHF	1.10	1.10	1.08	1.05	1.04	1.03	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.99	1.01	1.03
USDCHF	0.91	0.91	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.97	0.95	0.94	0.93	0.92	0.91	0.91
GBPCHF	1.26	1.28	1.27	1.24	1.24	1.21	1.14	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.14
AUDUSD	0.77	0.77	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.71	0.69	0.70	0.72	0.75	0.77	0.76
EURAUD	1.57	1.57	1.60	1.57	1.55	1.49	1.47	1.48	1.48	1.41	1.40	1.44
AUDJPY	82	84	81	83	84	93	96	96	95	97	97	95
GBPAUD	1.79	1.82	1.88	1.85	1.85	1.76	1.73	1.70	1.67	1.61	1.60	1.66
ZARUSD	14.96	14.13	14.64	15.44	15.21	15.59	16.60	15.80	15.60	16.00	16.40	15.90
ZARGBP	20.63	19.75	20.18	20.82	20.40	19.59	19.87	18.80	18.64	19.28	20.09	19.88
ZAREUR	18.03	17.03	17.26	17.66	17.07	16.60	16.88	16.35	16.46	16.96	17.55	17.33
JPYZAR	7.09	7.75	7.52	7.37	7.65	8.33	8.32	8.70	8.49	8.06	7.74	7.89
ZARCHF	16.52	15.51	15.95	16.75	16.47	16.15	17.47	16.81	16.77	17.39	18.02	17.47
ZARAUD	11.56	10.88	10.76	11.25	11.02	11.14	11.50	11.06	11.15	12.00	12.55 ce: Iress,	12.00





Thursday 25 August 2022



Figure 22: Exchange rate history and forecast: quarterly averages												
		20	24			20	25			20	26	
	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24	Q1.25	Q2.25	Q3.25	Q4.25	Q1.26	Q2.26	Q3.26	Q4.26
EURUSD	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
EURGBP	0.90	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87
GBPEUR	1.11	1.10	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
GBPUSD	1.28	1.30	1.35	1.38	1.40	1.41	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43
USDJPY	123	118	115	110	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107
EURJPY	141	139	138	135	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134
GBPJPY	157	153	155	152	150	151	153	153	153	153	153	153
FUDOUE	4.05	4.07	4.00	4.40	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4	4 4 4
EURCHF	1.05	1.07	1.09	1.12	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
USDCHF GBPCHF	0.91 1.16	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91
ВВРСПГ	1.10	1.18	1.23	1.26	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30
AUDUSD	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78
EURAUD	1.47	1.51	1.54	1.58	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
AUDJPY	96	92	90	86	83	83	83	83	83	83	83	83
GBPAUD	1.64	1.67	1.73	1.77	1.79	1.81	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83
0217102	1.01	1.01	0		1	1.01	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
ZARUSD	15.70	16.20	16.70	16.20	16.10	16.80	16.50	16.30	16.20	16.90	16.60	16.40
ZARGBP	20.10	21.06	22.55	22.36	22.54	23.69	23.60	23.31	23.17	24.17	23.74	23.45
ZAREUR	18.06	19.12	20.04	19.93	20.13	21.00	20.63	20.38	20.25	21.13	20.75	20.50
JPYZAR	7.83	7.28	6.89	6.79	6.65	6.37	6.48	6.56	6.60	6.33	6.45	6.52
ZARCHF	17.25	17.80	18.35	17.80	17.69	18.46	18.13	17.91	17.80	18.57	18.24	18.02
ZARAUD	12.25	12.64	13.03	12.64	12.56	13.10	12.87	12.71	12.64	13.18	12.95	12.79
										Source:	IRESS,	Investec

Figure 23: L	_ite Down	Case: E	xchange	Rate fore	ecasts							
		20	22			20	23		2024			
	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.23	Q4.22	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24
USD/ZAR	15.21	15.59	16.90	17.00	17.50	17.60	17.50	17.70	18.00	17.80	17.60	17.70
GBP/ZAR	20.40	19.59	20.62	20.57	21.35	22.00	22.23	22.66	23.40	23.67	23.76	24.43
EUR/ZAR	17.07	16.60	18.08	18.53	19.43	19.89	19.95	20.36	21.24	21.36	21.65	22.13
ZAR/JPY	7.65	8.33	7.99	7.88	7.49	7.33	7.26	7.12	6.83	6.63	6.53	6.21
CHFZAR	16.47	16.15	17.79	18.09	18.82	19.13	19.23	19.45	19.78	19.56	19.34	19.45
AUDZAR	11.02	11.14	12.00	12.24	12.95	13.20	13.30	13.81	14.04	13.88	13.73	13.81
GBP/USD	1.34	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.22	1.25	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.33	1.35	1.38
EUR/USD	1.12	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.25
USD/JPY	116	130	135	134	131	129	127	126	123	118	115	110
	Note: averages, Source: Investec, Iress											ec, Iress

⊕ Investec

Rand Outlook: markets yet to see end to risk-off





Figure 24: S	Figure 24: Severe Down Case: Exchange Rate forecasts											
		20	22			20	23		2024			
	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.23	Q4.22	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24
USD/ZAR	15.21	15.59	17.50	18.00	18.30	18.50	18.60	19.00	19.30	19.40	19.30	19.30
GBP/ZAR	20.40	19.59	21.35	21.78	22.33	23.13	23.62	24.32	25.09	25.80	26.06	26.63
EUR/ZAR	17.07	16.60	18.73	19.62	20.31	20.91	21.20	21.85	22.77	23.28	23.74	24.13
ZAR/JPY	7.65	8.33	7.71	7.44	7.16	6.97	6.83	6.63	6.37	6.08	5.96	5.70
CHFZAR	16.47	16.15	18.42	19.15	19.68	20.11	20.44	20.88	21.21	21.32	21.21	21.21
AUDZAR	11.02	11.14	12.43	12.96	13.54	13.88	14.14	14.82	15.05	15.13	15.05	15.05
GBP/USD	1.34	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.22	1.25	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.33	1.35	1.38
EUR/USD	1.12	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.25
USD/JPY	116	130	135	134	131	129	127	126	123	118	115	110
	Note: averages, Source: Investec, Iress											

Figure 25: Up Case: Exchange Rate forecasts														
	2022					2023				2024				
	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.23	Q4.22	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24		
USD/ZAR	15.21	15.59	15.00	14.90	14.90	14.70	14.60	14.50	14.90	15.00	14.50	14.50		
GBP/ZAR	20.40	19.59	18.30	18.03	18.18	18.38	18.54	18.56	19.37	19.95	19.58	20.01		
EUR/ZAR	17.07	16.60	16.05	16.24	16.54	16.61	16.64	16.68	17.58	18.00	17.84	18.13		
ZAR/JPY	7.65	8.33	9.00	8.99	8.79	8.78	8.70	8.69	8.26	7.87	7.93	7.59		
CHFZAR	16.47	16.15	15.79	15.85	16.02	15.98	16.04	15.93	16.37	16.48	15.93	15.93		
AUDZAR	11.02	11.14	10.65	10.73	11.03	11.03	11.10	11.31	11.62	11.70	11.31	11.31		
GBP/USD	1.34	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.22	1.25	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.33	1.35	1.38		
EUR/USD	1.12	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.25		
USD/JPY	116	130	135	134	131	129	127	126	123	118	115	110		
Note averages, Source: Investec, Iress														

Figure 26: Extreme Up Case: Exchange Rate forecasts														
	2022					2023				2024				
	Q1.22	Q2.22	Q3.22	Q4.22	Q1.23	Q2.23	Q3.23	Q4.22	Q1.24	Q2.24	Q3.24	Q4.24		
USD/ZAR	15.21	15.59	14.00	13.80	13.70	13.60	13.40	13.30	13.10	13.10	12.90	12.80		
GBP/ZAR	20.40	19.59	17.08	16.70	16.71	17.00	17.02	17.02	17.03	17.42	17.42	17.66		
EUR/ZAR	17.07	16.60	14.98	15.04	15.21	15.37	15.28	15.30	15.46	15.72	15.87	16.00		
ZAR/JPY	7.65	8.33	9.64	9.71	9.56	9.49	9.48	9.47	9.39	9.01	8.91	8.59		
CHFZAR	16.47	16.15	14.74	14.68	14.73	14.78	14.73	14.62	14.40	14.40	14.18	14.07		
AUDZAR	11.02	11.14	9.94	9.94	10.14	10.20	10.18	10.37	10.22	10.22	10.06	9.98		
GBP/USD	1.34	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.22	1.25	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.33	1.35	1.38		
EUR/USD	1.12	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.25		
USD/JPY	116	130	135	134	131	129	127	126	123	118	115	110		
Note: averages, Source: Investec, Iress														



Thursday 25 August 2022

1625

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Thursday 25 August 2022

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