

Weekly Stock Recommendation



Monday January 9th, 2023

Market Pulse for the week ended 6th January, 2023.

Contact:

MBC Securities Limited

11th Floor, St. Nicholas House, 26, Catholic Mission Street, Lagos Island, Lagos Nigeria
+234 1 2708003/4
www.mbcgroup.com.ng

The Nigerian Bourse closed Negative last week as the ASI depreciated by 0.06% to close at 51,222.34 points. Year to date returns closed at -0.06% at the end of the week. Market activity decreased as aggregate volume went down by -99.51% and value increased by 30.07%. Investors traded a total of 921.856 million units of shares valued at 27.154 billion in 15,601 deals. The Financial Services Industry (measured by volume) led the activity chart with 616.527 million shares valued at N6.452 billion traded in 7,208 deals; thus contributing 66.88% and 23.76% to the total equity turnover volume and value respectively. The Industrial Goods Industry followed with 138.314 million shares worth N13.356 billion in 1,063 deals. The third place was the Conglomerates Industry, with a turnover of 55.931 million shares worth N92.845 million in 502 deals. All other indices finished higher with the exception of NGX Industrial Goods index which depreciated by 0.58%. Consequently, we advise medium to long-term investors to strategically take advantage of the current low market prices of fundamentally sound stocks highlighted in our stock recommendation for this week.

STOCK RECOMMENDATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING 13th January, 2023

Symbol	Last Close	52 Week Low (N)	52 Week High (N)	P/E Ratio	Exit Price	Recommendation	Comment
NB	47.00	39.90	78.50	15.45	69.54	BUY	<p>Nigerian Breweries Plc is projected to have a FY 2022 revenue of N576.07bn, up by 31.74% from N437.28bn in FY 2021. Profit after tax is estimated to grow from N12.67bn in FY 2021 to N16.70bn in FY 2022 with an EPS of N2.06</p> <p>Nigerian Breweries Plc Q3 2022 results showed an increase in revenue by 27.21% from ₦309.28bn in Q3 2021 to ₦393.45bn in Q3 2022. Operating profit advanced from ₦24.74bn in Q3 2021 to ₦35.39bn in Q3 2022, reflecting an increase of 43.06%. Profit before tax grew by 49.89% from ₦12.74bn in Q3 2021 to ₦19.09bn in the current period, as finance income grew by 172.63% and finance cost dropped by 48.82%. Profit after tax rose by 79.58% from ₦8.22bn in Q3 2021 to ₦14.76bn in Q3 2022. EPS increased by 78.43% to ₦1.82 in Q3 2022 from ₦1.02 in Q3 2021. Nigerian Breweries has a BVPS of ₦23.06, P/BV of 1.80x and P/E ratio of 15.45x.</p> <p>Nigerian Breweries Plc is a major player in the Brewery sector with its plants located across the country. The company came out of its loss position from Q1 2021 and has continued to grow its revenues and profits in 2022. The company is well positioned to maintain its leadership in its sector even though there are other companies producing non differentiated products in competition. NB is one of the best performing stocks so far in Q2 2022.</p>
WAPCO	24.00	21.00	33.70	5.98	33.66	BUY	<p>Lafarge Africa (WAPCO) Plc is projected to have a FY 2022 revenue of N366.68bn, up by 25.11% from N293.09bn in FY 2021. Profit after tax is estimated to grow from N51.03bn in FY 2021 to N63.81bn in FY 2022 with an EPS of N3.97</p> <p>Lafarge Africa (WAPCO) Plc Q3 2022 results showed that earnings advanced by 23.11% from N219.20bn in Q3 2021 to N269.85 bn in the current period. Gross profit increased by 3199% to N134.77bn in Q3 2022 from N102.11bn in Q3 2021. In a similar tune, profit before tax advanced by 22.88% from N43.90bn recorded in Q3 2021 to N53.95 bn in the current period. Likewise, profit after tax grew by 11.15% from N40.40bn in Q3 2021 to N44.90bn in Q3 2022. Consequently, Earnings per share went up by 11.16% from N2.51 in Q3 2021 to N2.79 in Q3 2022. Lafarge Africa has a BVPS of N25.29, P/BV of 0.88x and P/E ratio of 5.98x.</p> <p>WAPCO is the 12th most valuable stock on the exchange. We are positive about the 2022 outlook for Lafarge Africa, as the company continues to restructure its balance sheet to improve performance. We also expect higher level of activities in the construction sector ahead of the 2023 elections, driving demand for cements and thereby, increased sales for the company.</p>

ACCESSCORP	9.00	7.50	10.60	1.56	13.93		<p>Access Holdings Plc is projected to have a FY 2022 revenue of N740.81bn, up by 23.12% from N601.71bn in FY 2021. Profit after tax is estimated to grow from N160..22bn in FY 2021 to N197.26 bn in FY 2022 with an EPS of N5.63</p> <p>Access Holdings Plc Q3 2022 results showed that interest income advanced by 21.46% from N470.9 bn in Q3 2021 to N571.98 bn in the current period. Net interest income went up by 4.78% from N267.73 bn in Q3 2021 to N280.53 bn in Q3 2022. Profit before tax grew by 8.97% from N135.06 bn in Q3 2021 to N147.18 bn in the current period due to the 36.05% increase in net impairment charges, 17.27% rise in fees and commission expense and 11.62% rise in net foreign exchange gain. Profit after tax went up by 12.54% from N121.88bn in Q3 2021 to N137.17bn in the current period, on the back of a 22.92% fall in income tax expense. Consequently, Access recorded a 12.14% rise in earnings per share from N3.46 in Q3 2021 to N3.88 in Q3 2022. Access Holdings Plc has a BVPS of N29.11, P/BV of 0.28x and P/E ratio of 1.56x.</p> <p>Access Holdings Plc has recently been restructured into a holdco structure, now listed as ACCESSCORP on the NGX Bourse. This allows the company diversify its operations outside its core banking operations in order to generate more value for shareholders. Access Holdings Plc has been driving its revenue growth through retail expansion, which has grown consistently across all income lines, driven by a strong focus on consumer lending, payments and remittances, digitization of customer journeys, and customer acquisition at scale. Based on their performance over the years we see Access bank sustaining their positive results in 2022.</p>
FIDELITY	4.75	2.23	4.10	2.13	5.46	HOLD	<p>Fidelity Plc is projected to have a FY 2022 revenue of N340.09bn, up by 35.62% from N250.77bn in FY 2021. Profit after tax is estimated to grow from N25.58bn in FY 2021 to N38.62bn in FY 2022 with an EPS of N1.52</p> <p>Fidelity Bank Plc Q3 2022 results showed that interest income advanced by 53.08% from N137.41bn in Q3 2021 to N210.35bn in the current period. Net interest income increased by 72.19% to N111.85bn in Q3 2022 from N64.96bn in Q3 2021. Profit before tax increased by 34.72% from N28.05bn recorded in Q3 2021 to N37.79bn in the current period. The increase in profit before tax was due to a 15.07% increase in fee and commission income. Profit after tax increased by 31.85% from N26.51bn in Q3 2021 to N34.96bn in Q3 2022, despite a 84.15% increase in income tax expense. Earnings per share increased by 31.52% from N0.92 in Q3 2021 to N1.21 in the current period. Fidelity Bank has a BVPS of N10.76, P/BV of 0.32x and P/E ratio of 2.13x.</p> <p>Fidelity Bank is clearly becoming a leader among Tier 2 Banks. The bank has continued to sustain its impressive run of financial performance following the strong full year results released leading to higher dividend payment to shareholders. Fidelity Bank has over the years implemented a retail digital banking strategy and that has continued to deliver, with the bank on course to achieving double digits growth.</p>

WEEKLY STOCK RECOMMENDATION

Symbol	Last Close	52 Week Low (N)	52 Week High (N)	P/E Ratio	Exit Price	Recommendation	Comment
FIDSON	9.79	5.64	11.49	4.50	11.92	BUY	<p>Fidson Plc is projected to have a FY 2022 revenue of N40.69bn, up by 31.86% from N30.86bn in FY 2021. Profit after tax is estimated to grow from N3.72bn in FY 2021 to N4.91bn in FY 2022 with an EPS of N2.34</p> <p>Fidson Q3 2022 results showed an increase in revenue by 44.48% from N21.75bn in Q3 2021 to N31.43bn in Q3 2022. Operating profit advanced from N4.29 bn in Q3 2021 to N6.35bn in Q3 2022, reflecting an increase of 48.03%. Profit before tax went up by 49.06% from N3.42bn Q3 2021 to N5.10bn in the current period. Profit after tax grew by 47.97% from N2.32bn in Q3 2021 to N3.44bn in Q3 2022. EPS grew by 35.14% to N1.50 in Q3 2022 from N1.11 in Q3 2021. Fidson has a BVPS of N5.92, P/BV of 1.52x and P/E ratio of 4.50x.</p> <p>Fidson Healthcare Plc is a leading pharmaceutical company in Nigeria with services in toll manufacturing, ethical products and over the counter drugs. The company in June 2021 expanded its portfolio of ethical products which boosted revenue generation by 88% as well as increasing income from its toll manufacturing from 2020 levels. The performance of the company led to positive sentiments in the equities market as it became one of the best performing stocks in 2021 and Q1 2022, returning 38% and 29% respectively.</p>
STANBIC	33.45	27.50	38.00	6.12	41.06	BUY	<p>Stanbic IBTC Holdings Plc Q3 2022 showed that Net interest income advanced by 47.53% from N54.99bn in Q3 2021 to N79.66bn in the current period, supported by a 46.65% rise in interest income and despite the 44.13% rise in interest expense. Trading income rose by 175.93% from N9.02bn in Q3 2021 to N24.89bn in Q3 2022. Profit before tax gained 52.16% from N45.31bn in Q3 2021 to N68.95bn in the current period. Profit after tax went up by 38.14% from N39.95bn in Q3 2021 to N55.19bn in the current period, despite a 156.59% increase in income tax expense. Consequently, Stanbic IBTC Plc recorded a 39.93% rise in earnings per share from N2.93 in Q3 2021 to N4.10 in Q3 2022. Stanbic IBTC Plc has a BVPS of N27.81, P/BV of 1.20x and P/E ratio of 6.12x.</p> <p>Stanbic IBTC Holdings, commonly referred to as Stanbic IBTC, is a financial service holding company in Nigeria with subsidiaries in Banking, Stock Brokerage, Investment Advisory, Asset Management, Investor Services, Pension Management, Trustees and life Insurance businesses. Stanbic IBTC Stockbrokers Limited, is one of the 5 firms selected by African Securities Exchanges Association (ASEA) to begin cross-border trading in Africa. Its asset management arm has also designed an infrastructure fund that seeks to provide competitive returns above the FGN 10-year bond yield.</p>
BUAFOODS	74.50	40.25	66.00	12.77	68.34	SELL	<p>BUA Foods Plc Q3 2022 result showed that revenue advanced by 20.22% from N241.07mn in Q3 2021 to N289.81mn in the current period. Operating profit increased by 15.09% to N79.34bn in Q3 2022 from N68.93bn in Q3 2021. Profit before tax advanced by 16.81% from N63.58bn recorded in Q3 2021 to N74.27bn in the current period. Likewise, profit after tax grew by 17.17% from N58.68bn in Q3 2021 to N68.76bn in Q3 2022. Consequently, earnings per share went up by 17.18% from N4.35 in Q3 2021 to N5.09 in Q3 2022. Bua Foods Plc has a BVPS of N11.47, P/BV of 5.67x and P/E ratio of 12.77x.</p> <p>BUA Foods 's sugar division currently operates the second-largest sugar refinery in West Africa, with a total refining capacity of 1.5 million Metric Tons (MT) per annum. BUA Foods owns a state-of-the-art flour mill equipped with high efficiency specifications for energy saving and waste reduction. This flour mill commenced production in 2019 with a capacity of 500,000 MT per annum. The plant currently has 576,000 tons of flour milling capacity. The Rice Division has a rice milling facility with a capacity of 200,000 MT per annum. The company expects that the rice mill will be operational in 2022 and expects it to be the biggest single-line rice mill in Nigeria.</p>
ZENITHBANK	24.45	18.90	27.50	3.36	30.41	BUY	<p>Zenithbank Plc's Q3 2022 results showed that gross earnings advanced by 19.65% to ₦620.57 bn in Q3 2022 from ₦518.67 bn in Q3 2021. Net interest income grew by 20.52% from ₦234.75 bn in Q3 2021 to ₦282.91bn in Q3 2022, supported by a 26.52% rise in interest income. Profit before tax advanced by 12.65% from ₦179.81 bn recorded in Q3 2021 to ₦202.55 bn in the current period. This is attributable to the 0.86% increase in trading income and 27.79% increase in net fees and commission income. Profit after tax went up by 8.55% from ₦160.59 bn in Q3 2021 to ₦174.33bn in Q3 2022 after a 46.85% increase in income tax expenses. Earnings per share advanced by 8.61% from ₦5.11 in Q3 2021 to ₦5.55 in the current period. Consequently, Zenith has a BVPS of ₦37.81, P/BV of 0.66x and P/E ratio of 3.26x.</p> <p>Zenith bank was recognized as the Most Valuable Banking Brand in Nigeria and has shown significant growth over the years and had the highest Profit After Tax in FY 2021 in the banking sector. Zenith Bank is one of the most capitalized firms on the stock exchange and its investors enjoy higher dividend yields than most. The bank has also pioneered technological innovations in the financial services industry to engage better with its customer base.</p>
MTNN	215.00	167.00	270.00	11.11	278.06	BUY	<p>MTNN Plc Q3 2022 results showed an increase in revenue by 20.71% from ₦1.21 tn in Q3 2021 to ₦1.46 tn in Q3 2022. Operating profit advanced from ₦418.35bn in Q3 2021 to ₦537.68bn in Q3 2022, reflecting an increase of 28.52%. Profit before tax grew by 24.68% from ₦321.35bn in Q3 2021 to ₦400.67bn in the current period, despite a 40.10% increase in finance costs. Profit after tax rose by 22.12% from ₦220.31bn in Q3 2021 to ₦269.04bn in Q3 2022. EPS increased by 22.92% to ₦13.30 in Q3 2022 from ₦10.82 in Q3 2021. MTNN has a BVPS of ₦13.24, P/BV of 15.03x and P/E ratio of 11.11x. MTN is a Information and Communication Technology (ICT) firm poised for interesting developments that will reposition it to deepen its growth in Nigeria's economy. The firm holds the largest market share in the telecommunications sector and has constantly expanded its services to increase mobile and internet penetration across Nigeria. MTN pledged \$1.4 billion in network infrastructure investment over the next 3 years in Nigeria and received CBN's approval to launch a Payment Service Bank (PSB), launching the firm into the financial services sector. We are optimistic that this will increase their customer base over the years thereby improving their earnings for the benefit of the company and its shareholders.</p>

DANGSUGAR	16.00	15.00	18.40	5.64	20.30	BUY	<p>Dangote Sugar Plc Q3 2022 results showed an increase in revenue by 47.48% from N195.50bn in Q3 2021 to N288.32bn in Q3 2022. Operating profit advanced from N28.61bn in Q3 2021 to N49.87 bn in Q3 2022, reflecting an increase of 74.26%. PBT went up by 56.97% from N23.10bn in Q3 2021 to N36.27bn in the current period. PAT grew by 60.07% from N15.51bn in Q3 2021 to N24.83bn in Q3 2022. EPS rose by 59.38% to N2.04 in Q3 2022 from N1.28 in Q3 2021. Dangote Sugar Plc has a BVPS of N11.63, P/BV ratio of 1.32x and P/E ratio of 5.64x.</p> <p>Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc is Nigeria's largest producer of household and commercial sugar with 1.44M MT refining capacity. The Q2 earnings report showed a positive growth following the declined performance in 2021 and despite the hike in price of raw materials following the war in Ukraine. We remain positive that in the long run, the firm will also boost its earnings as it benefits from its Backward Integration goal to become a global force in sugar production, by producing 1.5M MT/PA of refined sugar from locally grown sugar cane for the domestic and export markets.</p>
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MACRO ECONOMIC INDICATORS

PARAMETER	CURRENT	PREVIOUS
GDP (%)	3.54%	3.11%
NSE ASI (YTD)	19.91%	19.98%
INFLATION (%)	21.47	21.09
UNEMPLOYMENT (%)	33.33	33.33
MPR (%)	16.50	16.50
FX RESERVES (US \$ BN)	37.15	37.08
BRENT CRUDE (US \$/BARREL)	79.67	83.63

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Investment Rating

BUY

The expected total return over the next twelve months is estimated to be 20% or more. Investors are thus advised to take position at the prevailing market rate

HOLD

Investors are advised to remain neutral as the expected total returns over the next twelve months is estimated to be below 20%

SELL

The stock trades at a premium to its intrinsic value and is thus expected to lose up to 5% or more of its market value. Investors are thus advised to exit the market at the prevailing market rate

WORDS	MEANING
NASD	National Association of Securities Dealers
Bearish	Decline in prices, negative sentiments, downward trend
Bullish	Surge in prices, positive sentiments, upward trend
Y-o-Y, Y/Y	Year-on-Year
M-o-M, M/M	Month-on-Month
Y-t-d	Year-to-date
W-o-W, W/W	Week-on-week
FVTPL	Fair value through profit or loss
FVTOCI	Fair value through other comprehensive income
EBITDA	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization