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Nigeria FX Reform & Exchange- Rate Unification: What's Changing, and Why It Matters

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Nigeria has moved to a single, market-driven foreign-exchange system, following the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) June 2023 announcement unifying all FX windows into one "willing buyer, willing seller" market.

This reform eliminates the previous multiple-rate framework and aims to improve transparency and liquidity. CBN also introduced the Nigerian Foreign Exchange (FX) Code in January 2025, setting governance, conduct, disclosure and risk-management standards for all FX market participants.

As part of the reform roadmap, CBN launched an electronic FX matching system, intended to streamline trades and reduce distortions.

Clearing historic FX backlogs has also been a priority, and recent market data reflects the effect of these efforts: Nigeria recorded USD 15.2 billion in net FX inflow in Q1 2025, signalling stronger liquidity and investor confidence.

For businesses and investors, a unified rate offers greater predictability, more efficient access to FX, and reduced reliance on parallel markets. It also results in a more realistic exchange-rate environment—one that may fluctuate more sharply but is better aligned with economic fundamentals. With the new FX Code in place, organisations must prioritise accurate documentation, transparency, and regulatory compliance when conducting cross-border or FX-dependent transactions.

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