BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF

News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Monday, September 13, 2021

Press conferences tend to be held for every monetary policy decision

Most central banks hold a press conference for every monetary policy decision, data from Monetary Policy Benchmarks 2021 shows. Press conferences are an opportunity for journalists and stakeholders to hold central bank officials accountable on behalf of the public. The median number of press conferences was four and the range was 1–8 per year. (www.centralbanking.com 13/09/21)

Euro zone bond yields creep up as ECB relief fades

Government borrowing costs across the euro area were slightly higher on Monday, with relief over a slowdown in the pace of European Central Bank purchases now in the past. Bond yields across the currency bloc fell sharply, pushing prices up, after the ECB on Thursday trimmed emergency bond buys, but said it was not about to close the money taps. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

UK employers, stung by new levies, call for overhaul of tax system

The Confederation of British Industry urged Sunak to "flip business taxation on its head" when he sets out new tax proposals and a three-year spending plan on Oct. 27. "The lack of detail and pace from the government on some of the big economic choices we must make as a country are the biggest concerns for business," CBI Director General Tony Danker said in excerpts of a speech to be delivered later on Monday. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

Banks expect London to remain a top financial centre, says survey

London will remain a leading global financial centre despite uncertainty over regulation due to Brexit, Lloyds Bank's annual sentiment survey of financial firms showed on Monday. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

Demand shocks can have permanent impact on US economy – Fed paper

Demand shocks can permanently alter the course of growth in the US, research published by the Federal Reserve finds. Authors Francesco Furlanetto et al question the "traditional view" that demand shocks have only a temporary impact on the long-run growth trend. (www.centralbanking.com 10/09/21)

Markets brace for hot consumer inflation report in the week ahead

Investors are paying close attention to any reading on inflation these days, and the consumer price index will be the big one to watch in the coming week. The latest snapshot of the economy comes just a week before the Federal Reserve's important Sept. meeting. (www.norvanreports.com 11/09/21)

Dollar drifts higher as US inflation data looms

The dollar began a busy data week on a firm footing, with immediate focus turning to US inflation figures, but investors are also wary of the Federal Reserve priming to exit from its super-supportive policy stance even as COVID-19 cases surge. The greenback inched higher in Asia after logging its best week in three, benefiting both from safety flows and the policy outlook lifting US Treasury yields. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

German recovery will gain momentum in third quarter - economy ministry

The German economy will pick up steam in the third quarter, but business activity will cool again in the final three months of the year, the Economy Ministry said. Europe's largest economy grew by 1.6% on the quarter from April to June, a weaker rebound than in many other European countries, as supply shortages for semiconductors and other intermediate goods held back the recovery from the pandemic. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

CURRENCY	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3847	(1.3846)	1.3848	(1.3847)
+USD/EUR	1.1829	(1.1814)	1.1830	(1.1815)
*GHS/USD	5.8532	(5.8532)	5.8590	(5.8590)
*GHS/GBP	8.1049	(8.1043)	8.1136	(8.1130)
*GHS/EUR	6.9237	(6.9149)	6.9305	(6.9224)

⁺SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 13/09/21 (Rates for 10/09/21 in brackets)

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China's central bank conducts 10bn yuan of reverse repos

China's central bank Monday conducted ¥10bn (about \$1.55bn) of reverse repos to maintain reasonably ample liquidity in the banking system. The interest rate for the seven-day reverse repos was set at 2.2%, according to a statement on the website of the People's Bank of China. A reverse repo is a process in which the central bank purchases securities from commercial banks through bidding, with an agreement to sell them back in the future. (www.xinhuanet.com 13/09/21)

Chinese yuan strengthens last week

China's yuan strengthened against a basket of currencies last week, according to the China Foreign Exchange Trade System (CFETS). The CFETS yuan exchange rate composite index, which measures the yuan's strength relative to a basket of currencies, gained 0.24 points to 98.62 on Friday, according to the CFETS. (www.xinhuanet.com 13/09/21)

JGB yields steady in subdued session with 10-year notes untraded

Japanese government bonds were little changed in a subdued session that had no scheduled auctions or central bank operations to give the market direction. Benchmark 10-year JGB futures fell 0.03 point to 151.79, with a trading volume of 18,224 lots, following weakness in US Treasuries on Friday. The 10-year cash bond did not trade, and last yielded 0.040%.

(<u>www.reuters.com</u> 13/09/21)

Japan's wholesale inflation hovers near 13yr high as material costs rise

Japan's wholesale inflation hovered near a 13-year high in Aug. as raw material imports continued to rise on solid global demand, data showed on Monday, putting pressure on companies to pass on higher costs to households. Many analysts, however, expect companies to keep any price hike moderate as state of emergency curbs to combat the coronavirus pandemic weigh on domestic demand. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

European shares likely to open on cautious note

European stocks are set to open on a cautious note Monday, as investors fret over slowing growth and rising inflationary pressures. The pan European Stoxx 600 gave The German DAX up 0.3%. slipped marginally and France's CAC 40 index dropped 0.3% while the UK's FTSE 100 finished flat with a positive bias. (<u>www.rttnews.com</u> 13/09/21)

Oil rises to one-week high as US supply concerns dominate

Oil prices rose for a second session on Monday as concerns over shut output in the United States, the world's biggest producer, following damage from Hurricane Ida supported the market, along with expectations for higher demand. Brent crude rose 67 cents, or 0.9% to \$73.59 a barrel, and US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude also added 66 cents, or 1%, to \$70.38 at 0633 GMT. Both markets were at their highest since Sept. 3 earlier in the session. (www.reuters.com 13/09/21)

CBN to infuse more dollars through banks to improve forex supply

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has announced that it will inject extra dollars into approved banks in order to increase the economy's foreign exchange supply. Senior CBN officials told ThisDay that the apex bank can handle all valid transactions channelled through banks. The black (parallel) market accounted for less than 1% of FX transactions, according to the officials, and should never be utilized to decide Nigeria's dollar exchange rate. (www.norvanreports.com 10/09/21)

Kenya economy \$222m larger after rebasing Kenya's economy has expanded by Sh515bn than earlier thought after it was rebased to capture new sectors whose output had grown in recent years. The review of national economic data commonly known as rebasing increased 2019 GDP in nominal terms to Sh10.2tr up from Sh9.7tr. (www.norvanreports.com 12/09/21)

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