BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF

News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Thursday, November 11, 2021

Eurozone bond yields tick up before US inflation report

Eurozone bond yields ticked up on Wednesday as markets awaited the Oct. US inflation report. The report is expected to show consumer prices rising 5.8% year-onyear in Oct. Overnight data showed Chinese producer prices accelerated more than expected in Oct. That added to market concerns that inflation, may be less transitory than expected. (www.reuters.com 10/11/21)

Europe's pandemic productivity growth surge may wane: ECB study

Eurozone labour productivity growth surged at the onset of the pandemic as firms rushed to adapt digital technologies but much of the gains are at risk of erosion, a European Central Bank study showed. Europe's productivity growth has been anaemic for years, keeping a lid on overall economic expansion. (www.reuters.com 10/11/21)

US consumer prices jumped in October

The Labor Department released a highly anticipated report on Wednesday showing US consumer prices increased by more than expected in the month of Oct. The report said the consumer price index jumped by 0.9% in Oct. after rising by 0.4% in Sept. Economists had expected consumer prices to climb by 0.6%. (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

US jobless claims edge down for sixth straight week

Releasing its weekly report on first-time claims for US unemployment benefits a day earlier than usual due to the Veterans Day holiday, the Labor Department said initial jobless claims saw another modest decrease in the week ended 6th Nov. The report said initial jobless claims edged down to 267,000, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week's level of 271,000. (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

China's CPI, PPI growth picks up pace amid rising costs

China's consumer price index, a main gauge of inflation, rose 1.5% year on year in Oct. the National Bureau of Statistics has said. The figure was higher than the 0.7% year-on-year growth recorded in Sept. Specifically, nonfood prices rose 2.4% from a year earlier contributing about 1.97 percentage points to the CPI growth, said senior NBS statistician Dong Lijuan. (www.xinhuanet.com 10/11/21)

China Oct. new bank loans fall less than expected, mortgages rise

New bank lending in China fell sharply in Oct. from the previous month, but not quite as badly as forecast by analysts who expect the central bank to ease monetary policy cautiously due to risks of stagflation. Data from the People's Bank of China showed banks extended new loans of ¥826.2bn (\$129.27bn) in Oct. down sharply from ¥1.66tr in Sept. (www.reuters.com 10/11/21)

UK: Food price highest since Aug 2020, says Kantar

Food prices are rising at their fastest pace since Aug. 2020, figures from data firm Kantar suggest, as supply chain disruption continues. Grocery inflation rose to 2.1% in Oct., the highest rate since last year, when retailers were cutting promotions amid the Covid pandemic. (www.bbc.com 09/11/21)

German gov't finances in critical state, federal audit office warns

Germany's finances are in a critical state and the next government must consolidate them, the Federal Audit Office has said to parties working to form a ruling coalition who are considering taking on more debt. Economic advisers to the government, cut their 2021 growth forecast for Europe's biggest economy in a report. (www.reuters.com 10/11/21)

| | EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| CURRENCIES | BUYING | | SELLING | |
| +USD/GBP | 1.3484 | (1.3536) | 1.3485 | (1.3537) |
| +USD/EUR | 1.1521 | (1.1576) | 1.1522 | (1.1577) |
| *GHS/USD | 5.8995 | (5.8993) | 5.9055 | (5.9053) |
| *GHS/GBP | 7.9550 | (7.9854) | 7.9635 | (7.9939) |
| *GHS/EUR | 6.7979 | (6.8298) | 6.8047 | (6.8365) |

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 11/11/21 (Rates for 10/11/21 in brackets) * BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 11/11/21 (Rates for 10/11/21 in brackets)

Japan PPI climbed to 1.2% in October

Producer prices in Japan were up 1.2% on month in Oct, the Bank of Japan has said, accelerating from the 0.3% increase in Sept. On a yearly basis, producer prices spiked 8.0% up from 6.3% in Sept. Export prices were up 2.1% on month and 13.7% on year in Oct, while import prices spiked 4.1% on month and 38.0% on year. (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

Turkey jobless rate fell in September

Turkey's jobless rate decreased in Sept. data from the Turkish Statistical Institute showed on Wednesday. On an unadjusted basis, the jobless rate rose to 11.1% in Sept. from 12.0% in Aug. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 11.5% in Sept. from 12.8% in the same month last year. (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

Australia jobless rate jumped to 5.2% in Oct

The unemployment rate in Australia increased to a seasonally adjusted 5.2% in Oct. the Australian Bureau of Statistics has said. That was above expectations for 4.8% and up from 4.6% in Sept. The Australian economy lost 46,300 jobs last month, missing forecasts for an increase of 50,000 following the loss of 138,000 jobs in Sept. (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

Denmark inflation highest since July 2011

Denmark's consumer price inflation increased in Oct. data from Statistics Denmark shows. The consumer price index rose 3.0% year-onyear in Oct. following a 2.2% increase in Sept. This was the highest increase since July 2011. Prices for housing, electricity and heat rose the most by 4.4% in Oct. and those of transport rose 7.1% (www.rttnews.com 10/11/21)

Romania continues monetary tightening

The National Bank of Romania increased its policy rate by 25 basis points to 1.75%. This was the second consecutive hike by the NBR's nine-member board, after a 25bp increase in Oct. The bank also raised the Lombard rate by 50bp, to 2.5%. Annual adjusted core inflation reached 3.6%, up from 2.9% in Aug. (www.centralbanking.com 09/11/21)

Oil prices ease in choppy trade

Oil prices fell slightly in choppy trade on Wednesday as caution set in ahead of highly anticipated US consumer inflation data. Brent crude futures for Jan. delivery slipped 0.1% to \$84.73 a barrel in European trade, while WTI crude futures for Dec settlement were down 0.6% at \$83.67.

(<u>www.rttnews.com</u> 10/11/21)

Sub-Saharan African sovereigns start recovery – Fitch

After an unprecedented number of downgrades in 2020 in response to the rise in government debt and liquidity challenges resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, rating momentum for sub-Saharan African sovereigns has turned more positive in 2021, with three upgrades (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire and Gabon) and one downgrade (Ethiopia) since the beginning of the year. (www.norvanreports.com 10/11/21)

Kenya's GDP grows 10.1% year-on-year in second quarter 2021

Kenya's economy grew 10.1% year on year in the second quarter of 2021, helped by a rebound in activity after the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions, Finance Minister Ukur Yatani has said, adding that the economy grew by 10.1% in the second quarter. (www.reuters.com 10/11/21)

WB announces grant of \$1.5bn to Angola

The World Bank has announced a disbursement of \$1.5bn to Angola. The grant available from Jan 2022 will benefit the water, agriculture and other infrastructure sectors of the country, said Hafez Ghanem, Vice President of the World Bank for the Eastern and Southern Africa Region. (www.xinhuanet.com 11/11/21)

Ghana's economic outlook to remain negative until economy improves – Fitch

Ghana's economic outlook will remain negative until the fiscal economy to be reviewed alongside its Sovereign Credit Rating in the first quarter of next year improves, Fitch Ratings has said in its latest report on Sub-Saharan Africa Sovereign Credit Overview. (www.myjoyonline.com 10/11/21)

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