



Monday, November 22, 2021

CPMI proposes 'global settlement window'

The Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures has developed the concept of a "global settlement window" to improve global payments. It aims to help regulators working to cut frictions in global payments caused by misalignment in the opening hours of real-time gross settlement systems. Because some systems are closed when others are open, cross-border payments are frequently held up. (www.centralbanking.com 19/11/21)

Lagarde: ECB policy is likely to stay loose

ECB president Christine Lagarde has said the central bank is likely to keep policy accommodative in 2022, despite rising eurozone inflation. In Oct., year-on-year eurozone inflation, measured by the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, rose by 4.1%. (www.centralbanking.com 19/11/21)

Covid comeback threatens fresh setback for European market bulls

Covid-19 lockdowns have returned anew to haunt Europe's economic prospects, forcing investors to reassess portfolios and sell vulnerable assets such as the euro and bank stocks. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

Banks ordered to promptly flag cybersecurity incidents under new US rule

US banking regulators have finalized a rule that directs banks to report any major cybersecurity incidents to the government within 36 hours of discovery. Banks also must notify customers as soon as possible. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

China needs 'key reforms', IMF says

Beijing has been urged to implement more supportive policies amid risks and uncertainties surrounding the pandemic, consumption and financial vulnerabilities, the IMF has said. (www.norvanreports.com 21/11/21)

Chinese Governor says CBDC must balance privacy and anti-crime measures

The People's Bank of China Governor has warned that authorities will act to prevent criminals making large-scale use of its prototype central bank-issued digital currency. The digital yuan must strike a balance between privacy protection and crime prevention, Yi told a panel meeting held by the Bank of Finland's Institute for Emerging Economies (www.centralbanking.com 19/11/21)

China FX regulatory body proposes cap on banks' prop trading

A central bank-led self-regulatory group that helps to oversee China's foreign exchange industry has asked commercial banks to cap the size of their proprietary trading accounts, five sources with direct knowledge of the matter have said. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

Asian currencies trim losses as firmer yuan counters dollar

Currencies in Asia's emerging markets remained weak, as growing anxiety over surging Covid-19 infections in Europe and hawkish comments from several US central bankers weighed on sentiment, although a firmer yuan stabilized regional currencies. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

China stocks rise on policy easing expectations; Hong Kong shares down

China stocks rose as analysts flagged chances of policy easing from the central bank's monetary policy report. The CSI300 index rose 0.5% to 4,915.79, while the Shanghai Composite Index gained 0.7% to 3,583.37. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

Turkish lira edges back from record lows

Turkey's lira firmed to below 11.2 to the dollar, having hit a record low late last week after the central bank slashed its policy rate again. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3461	(1.3468)	1.3463	(1.3469)
+USD/EUR	1.1315	(1.1338)	1.1316	(1.1339)
*GHS/USD	5.9083	(5.9083)	5.9143	(5.9143)
*GHS/GBP	7.9532	(7.9574)	7.9624	(7.9659)
*GHS/EUR	6.6856	(6.6992)	6.6927	(6.7059)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 22/11/21 (Rates for 19/11/21 in brackets)

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Australia to reopen to foreign visa holders in bid to revive economy

Australia will allow foreign visa holders to enter the country from the start of Dec., Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Monday, the latest step to restart international travel and support its economy. (www.reuters.com 22/11/21)

Brazil's Pix system used by 62% of population – central bank

Brazil's real-time retail payment system, Pix, reached over 104 million users in the first year since its launch, the country's central bank announced recently. This is over 62% of the country's adult population, the Central Bank of Brazil said on Nov 16. Although young people were the main users, it said the system had been adopted by citizens of all age groups. (www.centralbanking.com 19/11/21)

Norway's Q3 GDP rises more than forecast as lockdown lifted

The Norwegian mainland economy grew at a faster-than-expected pace in the July-Sept quarter, accelerating from the early parts of 2021 as Covid-19 lockdowns were lifted, Statistics Norway (SSB) data show. (www.reuters.com 19/11/21)

Final frontier? Japan after the Kuroda experiment

Reflecting on five years as Bank of Japan (BoJ) Governor, Masaaki Shirakawa, said that each day in office “felt as if I was running as fast as I could into a strong wind”. Undoubtedly, having been thrust into the job in March 2008, he faced a tougher job than many central bank chiefs. But perhaps the stiffest breeze blew from the Japanese economy itself, not from the global crisis. (www.centralbanking.com 22/11/21)

Japan unleashes record stimulus package

Japan has unveiled a record \$490bn spending package to cushion the economic blow from the Covid-19 pandemic, bucking a global trend towards withdrawing crisis-mode stimulus measure. Spending has ballooned due to an array of payouts including those criticised for being unrelated to the pandemic. (www.reuters.com 19/11/21)

European shares seen tad higher at open

European stocks are likely to open higher on Monday after China's central bank indicated possible easing steps to support a slowing economy. The pan European Stoxx 600 eased 0.3%. The German DAX and France's CAC 40 index both fell around 0.4% while the UK's FTSE 100 dipped half a percent. (www.rttnews.com 22/11/21)

EIB provides €5bn investment as 80% of African banks consider climate risk

The European Investment Bank (EIB) provided more than €5bn of new financing to support more than €12bn of transformational private and public investment across Africa in 2020. This includes, launching new targeted financial initiatives in collaboration with African banks and financial institutions to help businesses recover from Covid-19 challenges, accelerating climate finance, improving access to finance by female-led businesses and enhancing financing for rural smallholders. (www.guardian.ng 22/11/21)

Cedi depreciates by 15 pesewas to the dollar in 11 months

The cedi has recorded a year-to-date depreciation rate of 2.6 percentage points (15 pesewas) against the dollar from Jan. to Nov 2021. The depreciation follows months of declining appreciation rate against the American dollar from Jan. to May when it posted an appreciation rate of 0.2% against the dollar. (www.norvanreports.com 20/11/21)

Market value of the Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE) fall by more than half a billion cedis

Market capitalisation of the GSE at the close of last week fell in value by GHS538m. However, the stock market ended trading on Friday with a market capitalisation of GHS64.84bn, representing a growth of 19.26% in 2021. The fall in market capitalization was the result of a decline in the benchmark GSE Composite Index which ended the week with a 51.44 points drop to close at 2,919.56 points translating into a YTD return of 50.37%. (www.norvanreports.com 20/11/21)

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