



Tuesday 9th August 2022

WB mobilizing \$4.5bn grant for Ukraine

The World Bank on Monday said it was mobilizing a \$4.5bn grant for Ukraine provided by the United States that will help Kyiv meet urgent needs created by Russia's invasion, including healthcare, pensions and social payments. The grant, arranged by the US Treasury and the US Agency for International Development and administered through the World Bank, was first reported by Reuters. (www.reuters.com 08/08/22)

Eurozone sentix investor confidence rises less than expected

Eurozone investor confidence improved in Aug. but less than expected, suggesting that the economy is undergoing a downturn, results of a closely-watched survey shows. The investor confidence index rose to -25.2 in Aug. from -26.4 in July. Nonetheless, the reading was below economists' forecast of -24.7. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

ECB injects billions of Euros into weaker Eurozone debt markets

The European Central Bank is using its pandemic-era bond-buying programme to shield highly indebted Eurozone countries from the effects of its decision to unwind stimulus programmes, in its bid to fight inflation. The bank concluded net purchases under its pandemic emergency purchase programme in March. (www.ft.com 07/08/22)

US consumers' inflation outlooks drop sharply, NY Fed survey shows

US consumers' expectations for where inflation will be in a year and three years dropped sharply in July, a New York Fed survey showed on Monday, indicating US central bankers are winning the fight to keep the outlook for price growth well-anchored as they battle to tame high inflation. (www.reuters.com 08/08/22)

China's foreign currency reserves up

China's foreign exchange reserves climbed to \$3.1041tr by the end of July, up \$32.8bn from June, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange has said. "Supply and demand in the domestic foreign exchange market remained balanced," Deputy Administration Head Wang Chunying said, commenting on the data. Wang attributed the increase in forex reserves to the increase in the dollar index and financial asset prices globally. (www.xinhuanet.com 07/08/22)

BoE accused of failures on shadow banking

British financial regulators have failed to tackle risks outside traditional banking and should now develop a comprehensive UK policy instead of waiting for an international agreement, according to a former Bank of England Deputy Governor. Paul Tucker accused the BoE of inadequate regulation of the so-called shadow banking sector at a private event last month. (www.ft.com 07/08/22)

CBDC launch still on the table, BoJ says

The Bank of Japan said on Aug. 8 it has not scrapped its preparations for a potential launch of a central bank digital currency (CBDC), dismissing reports by a number of media outlets. Tomohiro Sugo, Head of the Payment and Settlement System Division, tells Central Banking that the BoJ is still open to the idea of launching a digital yen in future. (www.centralbanking.com 08/08/22)

Australia business activity booms in July, costs surge

A measure of Australian business confidence rebounded in July as sales and profits held up surprisingly well in the face of rising interest rates and high inflation, though firms also reported record costs amid supply constraints. A survey from the National Australia Bank shows that the index of business conditions climbed +20 in July. (www.reuters.com 08/08/22)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2113	(1.2042)	1.2115	(1.2043)
+USD/EUR	1.0218	(1.0154)	1.0219	(1.0155)
*GHS/USD	8.0011	(7.9961)	8.0091	(8.0041)
*GHS/GBP	9.6917	(9.6289)	9.7030	(9.6393)
*GHS/EUR	8.1759	(8.1202)	8.1848	(8.1283)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 09/08/22 (Rates for 08/08/22 in brackets)

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Taiwan export growth slows less than forecast

Taiwan's export growth eased at a slower-than-expected pace in July, while imports rose at a faster pace, the Ministry of Finance has said. Exports climbed 14.2% year-on-year in July, following a 15.2% gain in the previous month. Economists had forecast the growth to slow to 11.65%. Exports of mineral products logged the sharpest growth of 123.4% annually in July. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

Hungary trade balance swings to deficit

Hungary's trade balance swung to a deficit in June from a surplus in the previous year, as imports rose more than exports, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office has said. The trade balance logged a deficit of €471m in June versus a surplus of €565m in the corresponding month last year. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

Brazil's analysts cut 2022 inflation forecast to 7.11%

Brazilian financial analysts reduced the inflation forecast for 2022 for the sixth week in a row, this time from 7.15% to 7.11%, the Bank of Brazil has said. According to the bank's weekly survey of the country's main financial institutions, analysts also modified the inflation forecast for 2023 from 5.33% to 5.36%. (www.xinhuanet.com 09/08/22)

Philippine economic growth slows to 7.4% as inflation bites

The Philippines' economic expansion was slower-than-expected in the second quarter as the fastest inflation in almost four years hurt consumption, which is a key growth driver. Gross domestic product grew 7.4% in the three months through June from a year ago. (www.bloomberg.com 09/08/22)

Swiss jobless rate remains stable in July

Switzerland's unemployment rate held steady in July after falling in the previous month, the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs has said. The unadjusted unemployment rate came in at 2.0% in July, the same rate in June. In the corresponding month last year, the jobless rate was 2.8%. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

Oil futures recover after early weakness, settle sharply higher

Crude oil prices recovered after early losses and settled sharply higher on Monday, as data showed a significant increase in oil purchases by China in Aug. West Texas Intermediate Crude oil futures for Sept. ended higher by \$1.75 or about 2% at \$90.76 a barrel, recovering from a low of \$87.22 recorded earlier in the session. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

Gold futures settle higher as dollar, bond yields drop

Gold prices recovered after a weak start and moved higher, as the dollar shed ground and bond yields dropped. The dollar index dropped to a low of 106.08 before recovering to 106.30, but still trailed its previous closing level by about 0.3%. The yield on long term US 10-year Treasury Note declined to 2.77%. (www.rttnews.com 08/08/22)

RBZ to release more gold coins to meet demand

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe will this week release another 2,000 gold coins into the market, following a successful launch last week during which all the 1,500 coins released were sold out. RBZ launched the gold coins on July 25 as a store of value amid the continued depreciation of the local Zimbabwean dollar. (www.xinhuanet.com 09/08/22)

South Sudan President fires sixth Governor

Moses Deng has been fired as Governor of the Bank of South Sudan, the sixth to be removed since 2017. South Sudanese President Salva Kiir had appointed Deng in Jan 2022, upon the dismissal of Dier Tong Ngor. Kiir announced the decisions on national television. (www.centralbanking.com 08/08/22)

Ghana: Government could secure \$3bn from IMF for economic programme

Government could secure \$3bn from the IMF to stabilise the economy. Joy Business understands that the fund coming in the form of balance of payment support will be spread within three years. A billion dollars is expected immediately if the Fund approves an economic programme by the government. (www.myjoyonline.com 09/08/22)

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