

Friday, 8th September 2023**Eurozone Q2 GDP growth revised down**

The euro area economy logged only a marginal growth in the second quarter reigniting fears of a recession after the net trade acted as a drag on growth. Revised estimate published by the Eurostat on Thursday showed that the 20-nation currency bloc grew by a marginal 0.1% in the June quarter. The rate was revised down from 0.3% estimated on Aug 16. (www.rttnews.com 07/09/23)

ECB's hike-or-pause dilemma going down to wire, poll shows

Economists see the European Central Bank lifting interest rates one last time to tame inflation. They're just not sure it will happen next week. A Bloomberg survey shows an almost even split between those anticipating a 10th consecutive hike on Thursday and those anticipating a "hawkish pause" before the deposit rate reaches a record 4% in Oct.

(www.bloomberg.com 08/09/23)

Joe Biden pushes for bigger World Bank to combat China's rising influence

Joe Biden is pushing to secure international support to expand the World Bank's lending capacity, as Washington comes under intense pressure to fund the fight against climate change and offer a viable alternative to China's economic influence. The US has placed efforts to enhance the financial firepower of the multilateral lender.

(www.ft.com 08/09/23)

Fed officials signal slowing tightening cycle

The Fed's interest rate is likely high enough already to lower inflation to 2%, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta president Raphael Bostic argued on August 31. "I feel policy is appropriately restrictive," Bostic said. "I think we should be cautious and patient and let the restrictive policy continue to influence the economy." (www.centralbanking.com 07/09/23)

PBoC sets stronger than expected renminbi trading band in bid to stem currency slide

China's central bank has set the renminbi's dollar trading band firmer than markets expected, deepening efforts to fend off bets against the currency after it fell to the lowest level in 16 years on Thursday. The People's Bank of China set the midpoint around which the renminbi can trade 2% in either direction against the dollar at Rmb7.2150 on Friday.

(www.ft.com 08/09/23)

UK nearing top of rate cycle, Bailey says

Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey has said the BoE is approaching the point where it could keep interest rates on hold. There was a time after the Russian invasion of Ukraine when it was "clear rates needed to rise", Bailey told UK lawmakers on Sept 6. The question was how much and over what time scale they needed to rise. (www.centralbanking.com 07/09/23)

German industrial production continues to fall in July: Destatis

German industrial output fell for the third consecutive month in July, producing 0.8% less than in the previous month, according to provisional figures published by the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) on Thursday. Industrial production of consumer goods dropped 1% month-on-month, while production of capital goods fell by as much as 2.9%, Destatis said. (www.xinhuanet.com 08/09/23)

Japan GDP climbs 1.2% on quarter in Q2

Japan's gross domestic product expanded a seasonally adjusted 1.2% on quarter in the second quarter of 2023, the Cabinet Office has said. That was shy of expectations for an increase of 1.5% but was up from 0.7% on the previous three months. On an annualized basis, GDP advanced 4.8%, again missing forecasts of 6.0% but up from 2.7% in the three months prior. (www.rttnews.com 07/09/23)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2479	(1.2499)	1.2481	(1.2500)
+USD/EUR	1.0709	(1.0717)	1.0710	(1.0717)
*GHS/USD	11.0346	(11.0276)	11.0456	(11.0386)
*GHS/GBP	13.7701	(13.7834)	13.7860	(13.7983)
*GHS/EUR	11.8167	(11.8180)	11.8294	(11.8298)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 08/09/23 (Rates for 07/09/23 in brackets)

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French GDP set to grow by 0.9 pct in 2023: INSEE

With unexpected growth of 0.5% in the second quarter of 2023, the French statistics authority has revised its GDP growth forecast up to 0.9% for the whole year of 2023. The forecast by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) is still lower than the 1% annual growth target announced in July by France's Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire. (www.xinhuanet.com 08/09/23)

Freeland welcomes BoC rate pause

Canadian Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland praised the central bank's decision to hold the policy rate and defended its independence in a statement on September 6. Freeland's support of the Bank of Canada came amid growing criticism of its monetary policy from all points on the political spectrum. (www.centralbanking.com 07/09/23)

Saudi economy grows by 1.2% in Q2

Saudi Arabia's real gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 1.2% in the second quarter of 2023 year on year, the Saudi Press Agency reported, citing figures issued by the General Authority for Statistics. In the April-June period, the kingdom saw a 6.1% increase in non-oil activities and a 4.3% decrease in the oil sector. (www.xinhuanet.com 08/09/23)

Thai economy may grow 2.8% this year after new government

Thailand's economy is expected to grow 2.8% this year, helped by public consumption and investment after the formation of a new government, a deputy finance minister said, as exports remain weak amid slowing global demand. (www.reuters.com 08/09/23)

Swedish economy posts stronger-than-expected rebound in July

Sweden's economy bounced back in July from a deep decline the month before, according to preliminary estimates from the country's statistics agency. GDP grew by 0.5% compared with June, and contracted 0.8% from July 2022, according to a statement from Statistics Sweden. (www.bloomberg.com 08/09/23)

Oil falls on stronger U.S. dollar, China worries; heading for weekly gain

Oil extended losses on Friday, further receding from this week's 10-month highs, as fears about the health of China's slowing economy and a stronger U.S. dollar wiped out the gains triggered by supply cuts from major producers Saudi Arabia and Russia. Brent crude futures dropped 41 cents, or 0.5%, to \$89.51 a barrel by 0619 GMT. (www.reuters.com 08/09/23)

Gold falls on stronger U.S. dollar

Gold futures on the COMEX division of the New York Mercantile Exchange fell on Thursday as the US dollar strengthened. The most active gold contract for December delivery fell \$1.70S dollars, or 0.09%, to close at 1,942.50 dollars per ounce. (www.xinhuanet.com 08/09/23)

Economies of developed countries should empower African economies - Dr. Amin Adam

The economies of advanced countries of the world have been urged to support and empower the emerging markets of developing countries by creating an enabling environment for international trade to thrive. The Minister of State at the Ministry of Finance, Dr. Mohammed Amin Adam has said. (www.ghanaweb.com 07/09/23)

Indian investors commit \$14 billion to Nigeria, to strengthen several Nigerian sectors

According to the Nigerian presidential spokesperson on Wednesday, Nigeria has received offers of about \$14bn from Indian investors and is seeking to sign an economic cooperation agreement with the South Asian country. (www.citibusinessnews.com 07/09/23)

Ghana: Government borrows GH¢11.90bn from treasury bills in August

In August 2023, the government's weekly treasury bill auction got a total subscription of GH¢11.90bn. This was higher than what it borrowed in July by 3.21%. Though interest rates have remained high, the government was able to achieve its target in most of the auctions. (www.ghanaweb.com 07/09/23)

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