



Tuesday, 19th September 2023

World leaders reaffirm commitment to SDGs

World leaders on Monday reaffirmed their commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the SDG summit, which is being held on the sidelines of this year's general debate of the General Assembly. In a political declaration adopted at the summit, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to "effectively implement the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs and uphold all principles enshrined in it." (www.xinhuanet.com 19/09/23)

Banks increasingly reliant on ‘flighty’ finance, BIS finds

Banks have become even more reliant on non-banks as a source of funding, potentially amplifying financial stability risks, new analysis finds. Several articles in the Bank for International Settlements quarterly review, published on Sept.18, examine dangers posed by this development. (www.centralbanking.com 18/09/23)

ECB to keep interest rates at 4% as long as needed, Villeroy says

The European Central Bank will keep interest rates at 4% for as long as needed to tame inflation, Governing Council member Francois Villeroy de Galhau said indicating he doesn't favor future increases at this stage. "Looking at the situation today, we think that is a good level and barring surprises, we are pragmatic." (www.bloomberg.com 18/09/23)

US Fed set to hold rates but leave tightening in play

The US Fed is set to conclude the year with two high-stakes meetings, as it prepares to hold rates on Wednesday and defer any further tightening amid mixed signals from the world's largest economy. The Federal Open Market Committee is widely expected on Wednesday to keep its benchmark interest rate at a 22-year high. (www.ft.com 19/09/23)

Robust service sector shores up China's economic recovery

From cinemas to restaurants, China's service sector has bounced back this year from a pandemic-induced downturn and played a greater role in sustaining the recovery of the broader economy. The country's service production index went up 6.8% year on year in Aug. accelerating from 5.7% the previous month, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has said. (www.xinhuanet.com 18/09/23)

UK inflation expected to tick up, complicating talk of BOE pause

An expected increase in UK inflation is making the Bank of England's already difficult decision on when to pause rate hikes even harder. UK inflation data due out Wednesday will likely show that price gains notched higher to 7% last month from 6.8% in July, according to the median of more than 30 estimates in a Bloomberg survey. (www.bloomberg.com 19/09/23)

German economy to contract slightly in Q3, says Bundesbank

The German economy is set to contract slightly in the third quarter as private consumption is unlikely to contribute positively, Bundesbank said in its monthly report. Households are holding back spending despite somewhat slowing inflation, strong wage increases and robust labor market situation, it noted. (www.rttnews.com 18/09/23)

Ueda abandons ‘Shock and Awe’ on Path toward BOJ normalization

Inside the walls of the Bank of Japan, there's a sense of relief as new boss Kazuo Ueda inches toward policy normalization with the minimum of fuss, an approach that couldn't be more different from his predecessor's dramatic debut. Back in 2013, Kuroda unleashed policies to shake a lethargic economy out of deflation. (www.bloomberg.com 18/09/23)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2396	(1.2400)	1.2397	(1.2401)
+USD/EUR	1.0693	(1.0672)	1.0694	(1.0673)
*GHS/USD	11.0668	(11.0653)	11.0778	(11.0763)
*GHS/GBP	13.7184	(13.7209)	13.7332	(13.7358)
*GHS/EUR	11.8343	(11.8101)	11.8451	(11.8208)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 19/09/23 (Rates for 18/09/23 in brackets)

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RBA discussed raising rates again in September, opted to pause

Australia's central bank considered the case for raising interest rates this month but decided to leave them unchanged for a third straight meeting, underscoring a higher hurdle to further policy tightening. The Bank opted to stand pat amid concerns its rapid-fire hikes since May 2022 that took the cash rate to 4.1% could slow the economy more sharply than forecast. (www.bloomberg.com 19/09/23)

Malaysia trade surplus rises in August

The Malaysian trade surplus was almost unchanged in August due to a continued slump in exports, data from the statistical office shows. The trade surplus stood at MYR 17.31bn in Aug. versus MYR 17.29bn in the same month last year. In July, the trade surplus was MYR 17.36bn. (www.rttnews.com 19/09/23)

Saudi Arabia's energy minister says oil cuts not about 'jacking up prices'

Saudi Arabia's energy minister has defended the kingdom's decision to extend oil production cuts, insisting the move was not about "jacking up prices" even as crude futures push towards \$100 a barrel. Riyadh and Moscow announced they would prolong cuts to production and exports to the end of 2023. (www.ft.com 18/09/23)

Global headwinds hinder Vietnam hitting 2023 growth target

Vietnam, facing continued global economic headwinds, will struggle to hit the year's growth target of 6.5%, National Assembly Chairman Vuong Dinh Hue told a Hanoi economic forum. "It will be very hard for Vietnam to meet its GDP growth target this year," he said. (www.bloomberg.com 19/09/23)

Czech PPI rises slightly to 1.8%, exceeds forecast

The Czech Republic's industrial producer price inflation increased more-than-expected in August, though marginally, figures from the Czech Statistical Office showed on Monday. The industrial producer price index climbed 1.8% year-on-year in August, following a 1.4% increase in July. (www.rttnews.com 18/09/23)

Oil prices rise on supply deficit concerns

Oil prices rose on Tuesday for the fourth consecutive session, as weak shale output in the United States spurred further concerns about a supply deficit stemming from extended production cuts by Saudi Arabia and Russia. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 98 cents, or 1.1%, to \$92.46, by 0630 GMT, while global oil benchmark Brent crude futures rose 46 cents, or 0.49%, to \$94.89 a barrel. (www.reuters.com 19/09/23)

SA government tightens belt to tackle fiscal challenges

The South African government on Monday released its cost containment measures recommendations in an effort to balance the country's fiscal position. The National Treasury declared in the guidelines that the South African government is facing "fiscal challenges. (www.xinhuanet.com 19/09/23)

US Treasury's Adeyemo urges Nigeria to work on stable currency, fight corruption

U.S. Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo on Monday urged Nigeria to work to stabilize its currency and fight corruption to unlock what he called the "unrealized opportunity" of Africa's most populous country. (www.reuters.com 18/09/23)

Nigeria seeks to deepen economic ties with SA

Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu held talks with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in New York, seeking to advance economic cooperation between the two largest economies in Africa. The two African leaders met ahead of the UN General Assembly that is scheduled to start this week, they said in a joint statement. (www.reuters.com 18/09/23)

Ghana retains 1st position as Africa's highest borrower from IMF

Ghana retained its position in Africa as the most indebted country to the International Monetary Fund as the country's loan to the Fund shot up by 35.3% in the second quarter of 2023. Ghana received \$600 million as a bailout package from the IMF in June 2023. (www.myjoyonline.com 18/09/23)

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