



BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF

News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Friday, 25th April 2025

IMF chief urges countries to resolve trade disputes promptly

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on April 24 that significant shifts in trade policies have led to a sharp increase in uncertainty, calling on countries to engage in constructive cooperation and resolve trade disputes promptly. "Major trade policy shifts have spiked uncertainty off the charts, accompanied by tighter financial conditions and high market volatility," Georgieva said at the 2025 Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group and IMF. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/04/25)

Tariff clouds loom over IMF, World Bank Spring Meetings

At the ongoing Spring Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank Group (WBG), "tariff" and "trade" have become keywords in several events and multiple reports. Delegates from Africa, Latin America, Europe and other regions expressed that, under the shadow of tariffs, concerns are spreading globally. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/04/25)

IMF Chief downplays climate work after Bessent criticism

The head of the IMF downplayed its work related to climate change after US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent called for the lender to return to its core focus as economic stabilizer. "People think we have climate experts, we don't. That's not our job," Kristalina Georgieva said during the spring meetings of the IMF and World Bank. (www.bloomberg.com 24/04/25)

IMF says Asia can cut rates to cushion economy from tariff shock

The International Monetary Fund said Asian central banks generally have room to lower interest rates to support domestic demand and offset the impact of the escalating global trade war, with the region in much stronger shape than before the Asian financial crisis. (www.bloomberg.com 25/04/25)

Trump trade war spreads more gloom across businesses worldwide

Businesses across multiple industries are hiking prices, backing away from previous financial guidance and warning of growing uncertainty as US President Trump's trade war pushes up costs, upends supply chains and stirs concerns about the global economy. Earnings releases on April 24 showed that corporations around the world ran into a wall of uncertainty in Q1, as executives found themselves navigating the Trump administration's constantly shifting stance on trade. (www.reuters.com 24/04/25)

BOE must assume economic shocks will persist, Lombardelli says

The Bank of England must assume that the future for world economy is one of persistent shocks that means policymakers will have to make greater use of scenarios for interest-rate decisions, Deputy Governor Clare Lombardelli said. (www.bloomberg.com 24/04/25)

German finance chief sees chance for trade deal in 90-day period

Germany's Finance Minister Joerg Kukies said it's realistic that the trade conflict with the US can be resolved within the 90-day pause mandated by President Donald Trump. "We believe the 90 days are doable," Kukies said on the sidelines of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Spring meetings in Washington. (www.bloomberg.com 24/04/25)

Japan business services prices rise 3.1%

Japan's business services prices continued to increase in March but the pace of growth moderated for the second month, the Bank of Japan said. The services PPI grew 3.1% on a yearly basis in March, following Feb's 3.2% increase. On a monthly basis, services PPI rose to 0.7% from 0.1% in Feb. Excluding international transportation, services PPI increased at a steady pace of 3.2% in March. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/25)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3322	(1.3252)	1.3323	(1.3259)
+USD/EUR	1.1372	(1.1346)	1.1372	(1.1347)
*GHS/USD	14.8926	(15.3423)	14.9075	(15.3577)
*GHS/GBP	19.8399	(20.3409)	19.8612	(20.3627)
*GHS/EUR	16.9369	(17.4106)	16.9522	(17.4249)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 25/04/25 (Rates for 24/04/25 in brackets)

* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 25/04/25 (Rates for 24/04/25 in brackets)

French consumer sentiment remains unchanged

French consumer confidence remained unchanged in April, monthly survey results from the statistical office INSEE reveal. The consumer sentiment index held steady at 92 in April. The score was forecast to fall to 91. Nonetheless, the score has remained below its long-term average of 100. Major purchase intentions of households hit the highest since February 2022. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/25)

Spain producer price inflation eases to 4.9%

Spain producer price inflation moderated in March from a 2-year high in February the statistical office INE has reported. The producer price index climbed 4.9% annually in March, slower than the 6.7% surge in the prior month. Excluding energy, producer prices edged down 0.1% after a flat change in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/25)

Tokyo inflation accelerates in April

Inflation in Japan's capital accelerated notably in April, data from the Ministry of Internal Affairs revealed today. Excluding fresh food, Tokyo core inflation advanced to 3.4% from 2.4% in March. This was above economists' forecast of 3.2% and reached the highest level in two years. (www.rttnews.com 25/04/25)

Czech economic confidence weakens in April

The Czech economic confidence decreased in April to the lowest level in eight months, survey results from the Czech Statistical Office show. The economic sentiment index dropped to 96.7 in April from 99.5 in the previous month. The business confidence indicator stood at 96.5 versus 99.6 in March. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/25)

Poland jobless rate falls to 5.3%

The unemployment rate in Poland decreased slightly in March after remaining stable in the previous month, figures from the statistical office show. The unemployment rate came in at 5.3% in March, down from 5.4% in February. In the corresponding month last year, the unemployment rate was also 5.3%. The number of registered unemployed people declined to 829,900 in March from 846,600 in February. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/25)

Stocks rise on easing trade war, rate-cut hopes: markets wrap

Global stocks advanced for a fourth consecutive day on track for the best winning streak in more than two months - as trade tensions cooled and after Fed officials indicated they would be open to cutting rates earlier than anticipated. Asian shares rose and the yuan erased losses as China is considering suspending its 125% tariff on some US imports. (www.bloomberg.com 25/04/25)

Oil set for weekly fall under supply pressure

Oil prices were set for a weekly decline of nearly 2% on the back of oversupply concerns and uncertainty around tariff talks between the US and China. Brent crude futures fell 2 cents to \$66.53 a barrel by 0814 GMT, falling 2.2% on the week. (www.reuters.com 25/04/25)

World Food Programme to reduce food support in Sudan due to funding shortages

The World Food Programme warned on Friday it is facing a funding shortfall that could impact its ability to supply support to people facing acute food shortages in Sudan within weeks. It is seeking \$698m to help 7m people from May through September. (www.reuters.com 25/04/25)

Nigerian president urges world leaders to address global climate crisis

Nigerian President Bola Tinubu has called on world leaders to demonstrate unity, courage, and sustained commitment in addressing the worsening global climate crisis. Addressing a high-level virtual dialogue, Tinubu reaffirmed Nigeria's dedication to forging a paradigm shift in which climate action and economic growth advance together. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/04/25)

Ethiopia's inflation rate to decline to 10% in 2025/2026 fiscal year

Ethiopia's inflation is expected to decline to 10% in the coming financial year, the country's central bank chief Mamo Mihretu said the lowest level in a decade thanks to the government's reform programme. The country struck a four-year, \$3.4bn program deal with the IMF last July and is undertaking far-reaching reforms which included the floatation of its birr currency. (www.reuters.com 24/04/25)

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