BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF
News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Wednesday, 16 September 2026

WTO says global trade system at critical juncture, urges reform

The World Trade Organization has urged its members to reform global trade rules or risk a slide into fragmentation that could significantly reduce economic output and hit poorer countries hardest. The Geneva-based global trade body said existing rules have struggled to keep pace with shifts in economic power, the rise of industrial policy, digital trade and escalating political tensions between major powers. (www.reuters.com 15/09/26)

Eurozone trade surplus increases sharply

The Euro area trade surplus increased sharply in July as growth in exports exceeded the increase in imports, Eurostat said Tuesday [15/09]. The trade surplus rose to €14.2bn in July from €7.2bn in June. In the same period last year, the surplus totalled €10.7bn. Data showed that exports expanded 9.0%, which was weaker than the 14.3% increase in June. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

US poverty rate dips to lowest on record, Census Bureau says

The US poverty rate edged down to the lowest on record in 2025, while median household income hit a record high. There were 34.5m people in poverty in 2025, the agency said. The decline marked the second consecutive annual drop in the poverty rate and brought it to its lowest level since the bureau began tracking the measure. (www.reuters.com 15/09/26)

China's economy sustains momentum as new growth drivers strengthen

China's economy maintained steady momentum boosted by innovation-led and high-quality development in Aug, with production and supply growing steadily, employment and prices generally stable, and foreign trade registering rapid growth, official data showed on Tuesday [15/09]. (www.xinhuanet.com 15/09/26)

China's fixed-asset investment down 7.2% in first eight months

China's fixed-asset investment dropped 7.2 percent year on year in the first eight months of 2026, official data shows. Investment totaled around CN¥29.3tr (about $4.33tr) during this period, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said in a statement. Excluding the property sector, the country's fixed-asset investment decreased by 4.2% in the first eight months of the year. (www.xinhuanet.com 15/09/26)

PBOC chief unfazed by credit slump as Era of surging loans ends

China's central bank governor signaled a long period of massive credit growth has come to an end, in what amounted to a message of reassurance for markets after an abrupt deceleration in lending as the economy loses its appetite for borrowing. Days after official data showed loan expansion weakened far more than expected in August. (www.bloomberg.com 16/09/26)

UK jobless rate remains unchanged; wage growth cools

The UK unemployment rate remained unchanged and wage growth eased in the three months to July period, reflecting the softer labor market conditions, the Office for National Statistics said. The unemployment rate stood at 4.9% in the 3 months to July, the same rate as in the quarter ended June. The rate was forecast to rise to 5.0%. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

UK inflation rises to five-month high before BOE decision

UK inflation climbed for a second month as motor fuel prices jumped, according to figures, a day before the Bank of England announces its interest-rate decision. Consumer prices rose 3.1% in the year through Aug, the highest since March and up from 2.9% the previous month, the Office for National Statistics said today. The increase was in line with the median forecast of economists. (www.bloomberg.com 16/09/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3476	(1.3487)	1.3477	(1.3488)
+USD/EUR	1.1541	(1.1547)	1.1542	(1.1648)
*GHS/USD	11.4767	(11.4573)	11.4881	(11.4687)
*GHS/GBP	15.4659	(15.4524)	15.4826	(15.4690)
*GHS/EUR	13.2459	(13.2298)	13.2590	(13.2429)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 16/09/26 (Rates for 15/09/26 in brackets)
* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 16/09/26 (Rates for 15/09/26 in brackets)

German wholesale price inflation strongest since 2023

Germany's wholesale prices increased at the fastest pace since 2023 as the conflict in the Middle East pushed up energy and raw material prices, Destatis said Tuesday [15/09]. Wholesale prices increased 6.8% year-on-year in August, following July's 5.3% rise. This was the strongest rise since Feb 2023. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

German ZEW economic sentiment improves moderately

German economic confidence improved moderately in Sept. as experts were cautiously optimistic about economic recovery, the Mannheim-based Centre for European Economic Research said. The ZEW indicator of economic sentiment rose less-than-expected to 34.7 in Sept. from 34.2 in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

Japan has Y1.105tr trade shortfall in August

Japan posted a merchandise trade deficit of ¥1.105tr in Aug. the Ministry of Finance said today. That missed forecasts for a deficit of ¥1.052tr following the ¥634.5bn shortfall in July. Exports were up 19.3% on year to ¥10.048tr, exceeding expectations for an increase of 18.2% following the 23.2% gain in June. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

French inflation confirmed at 2.4%

French consumer price inflation increased as estimated in Aug. while harmonized inflation was revised up slightly, final data from the statistical office INSEE showed Tuesday [15/09]. CPI rose to 2.4% in Aug., a 3-month high, up from 2.1% in July. Inflation came in line with the preliminary estimate released on Aug. 28. (www.rttnews.com 15/09/26)

Sweden Jobless Rate Rises To 8.5%

Sweden's unemployment rate increased in Aug. from a 20-month low in July, the Statistics Sweden said. The unadjusted unemployment rate rose to 8.5% in Aug. from 7.8 % in July. In the same month last year, the jobless rate was 8.4%. The number of unemployed totaled 505,200 in Aug. compared to 467,700 persons in July. (www.rttnews.com 16/09/26)

Oil slips on US stock build, Middle East disruptions in focus

Oil prices fell today, retreating after a two-day rally following an unexpectedly large build in U.S. crude inventories, while supply disruptions in the Middle East lingered. Brent crude futures fell $1.22, or 0.67%, to $107.53 a barrel at 0655 GMT. (www.reuters.com 15/09/26)

Global Finance must change, but Africa must deliver at home — González Laya

Africa’s development challenge can no longer be explained solely by an international financial system that makes capital disproportionately expensive for poorer economies, nor by domestic policy failures alone. Progress will require fairer global financing architecture and stronger implementation by African governments. (www.norvanreports.com 15/09/26)

AfDB urges key reforms to build resilient African food systems

Targeted policy and fiscal reforms are essential to protect Africa's food systems from growing global disruptions, a senior African Development Bank (AfDB) official said at a virtual forum on Tuesday. Martin Fregene, officer in charge of the vice presidency for Agriculture. (www.xinhuanet.com 15/09/26)

Rwanda's economy grows by 9.4% in Q2 of 2026

Rwanda's economy grew by 9.4% in Q2 of 2026, up from 7.8% during the same quarter of 2025, driven by strong performance in the industry and services sectors, according to data released by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) on Tuesday [15/09]. (www.xinhuanet.com 16/09/26)

Angola delivers another big rate cut as inflation falls to single digits

Angola's central bank cut its key lending rate by 100 bps on Tuesday, its third reduction in a row after inflation fell to single digits for the first time in more than a decade.
The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here. The Bank of Angola lowered its policy rate opens new tab to 14.75% from 15.75%. (www.reuters.com 15/09/26)