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

Tuesday, 22 September 2026

Fed, BoE probe banks' exposure to trading firms after Jane Street loss, FT reports

The US and UK central banks have asked global banks about their exposures to large trading firms after turmoil at a hedge fund caused large losses at proprietary trading firm Jane Street in July, the Financial Times reported on Monday [21/09]. The AI-focused Situational Awareness fund, run by former OpenAI researcher Leopold Aschenbrenner, was forced to sell most of its public equity's portfolio. (www.reuters.com 21/09/26)

Fed's Musalem says more rate hikes likely needed to quell inflation

The Federal Reserve will likely need to hike interest rates further to lower inflation resulting from strong demand as well as a commodity price shock that has moved beyond oil, St. Louis Fed President Alberto Musalem said on Monday, adding that it would be better for the US central bank to act sooner than wait. (www.reuters.com 21/09/26)

ECB opens blockchain link to financial markets

The European Central Bank launched a new service on Monday [21/09] linking its payment system to blockchain-based financial markets and said it would invest some of its own money in digital securities. The moves reflect a broader effort by central banks to adapt to the growing use of blockchain in finance. (www.reuters.com 21/09/26)

UK borrowing overshoot darkens backdrop for Healey's budget

Britain's government borrowed more than expected in August, pushing the deficit for the financial year to date further above official forecasts and adding to a tough backdrop for finance minister John Healey's first budget next month. Public sector net borrowing stood at £18.3 billion ($24.5 billion) in August. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

China's offshore trust tax crackdown could impact single stocks, BofA says

China's new rule to chase income tax on offshore trusts, a popular structure adopted by many Hong Kong and US-listed Chinese companies' shareholders, could pose short-term risks on certain shares as payment deadline approaches, according to BofA Securities. Offshore-listing private companies might be under more scrutiny, while state-owned companies are likely less impacted. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

UK factory orders show best performance since July 2023, CBI survey shows

A gauge of British factory orders rose this month to reach its highest level since July 2023, a Confederation of British Industry survey showed on Tuesday [22/09]. The report adds to recent signs of resilience in Britain's economy, as well as solid increases in manufacturing output. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

UK budget deficit exceeds estimate

The UK budget deficit exceeded the government estimate in August, data from the Office for Budget Responsibility said Tuesday. Public sector net borrowing increased GBP 2.9 billion from the previous year to GBP 18.3 billion in August. This was the second-highest borrowing for August on record and GBP 3.5 billion above the estimate of the Office for Budget Responsibility.
(www.rttnews.com 17/09/26)

Sterling steady after report says Iran may reopen Hormuz

The British pound traded flat just off a two-month low against the dollar on Tuesday, as traders weighed a report that said Iran had offered to reopen the Strait of Hormuz within seven days. The disruption of the crucial shipping route has strained global oil supplies and posed a serious challenge for nations. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3373	(1.3344)	1.3374	(1.3345)
+USD/EUR	1.1467	(1.1478)	1.1468	(1.1478)
*GHS/USD	11.5442	(11.5142)	11.5558	(11.5258)
*GHS/GBP	15.4381	(15.3646)	15.4547	(15.3811)
*GHS/EUR	13.2379	(13.2169)	13.2510	(13.2288)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 22/09/26 (Rates for 18/09/26 in brackets)
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Denmark consumer confidence weakens in September

Households in Denmark remained slightly more pessimistic in September, figures from Statistics Denmark showed on Tuesday [22/09]. The consumer confidence index weakened to -13.7 in September from a 6-month high of -13.1 in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

Finland jobless rate falls to 9.1%, lowest in 11 months

Finland's unemployment rate decreased further in August to the lowest level in nearly a year, figures from Statistics Finland showed on Tuesday. The jobless rate among the 15-74 age groups dropped to 9.1 percent in August from 9.9 percent in July. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

Dutch consumers slightly less pessimistic in September

Dutch consumer confidence improved marginally in September amid a rise in their purchasing intentions, data from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed on Tuesday [22/09]. The consumer confidence index rose to -33 in September from -34 in August. Nonetheless, it remained well below the average of -12. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

Turkey consumer confidence highest since July 2018

Households in Turkey remained less pessimistic in September, and the confidence rose further to the highest level in more than eight years, survey data from the Turkish Statistical Institute showed on Tuesday [22/09]. The consumer confidence index rose to 91.9 in September from 90.8 in August. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

Slovenia producer price inflation highest in over 3 Years

Slovenia's producer price inflation accelerated slightly in August to the highest level in just over three years, figures from the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia showed on Monday [21/09]. Industrial producer prices climbed 3.5 percent year-on-year in August, faster than the 3.4 percent increase in July. Prices have been rising since February 2025. (www.rttnews.com 21/09/26)

Oil prices edge lower in volatile trade

Oil prices traded lower in volatile trade on Tuesday [22/09] amid hopes for diplomatic efforts to end the U.S.-Iran war and signs of recovering Saudi oil exports. Brent crude futures were down half a percent at $99.86 a barrel after closing 3.4% lower on Monday [21/09]. WTI crude futures fell 1.1% t to $91.32 a barrel. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

Consumer stocks lift UK indexes as investors await US-Iran talks

UK's equity indexes edged higher on Tuesday as gains in consumer stocks offset weakness in energy shares, while investors awaited potential US-Iran talks. The blue-chip FTSE 100 index rose 0.20% to 10,760.01 points by 1011 GMT, while the midcap FTSE 250 climbed 0.65%. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

Gold edges lower on rate hike fears

Gold prices fell toward $4,300 an ounce on Tuesday due to expectations for additional Federal Reserve rate hikes. Spot gold dipped 0.6 percent to $4,317.77 an ounce while U.S. gold futures were down 0.7 percent at $4,352.15. Hawkish signals from Federal Reserve policymakers reinforced expectations of further interest-rate hikes by the US central bank this year. (www.rttnews.com 22/09/26)

South African rand subdued as investors eye US-Iran talks, domestic events

The South African rand was subdued in early trade on Tuesday as investors awaited potential US-Iran talks and key domestic data and events later this week, including inflation figures and the central bank's policy decision. At 0706 GMT, the rand traded at 16.2825 against the dollar, 0.2% weaker than its previous close. (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)

Botswana sharply reduces budget deficit forecast on revenue boost from central bank

Botswana now expects a much smaller budget deficit this fiscal year thanks to higher-than-expected revenue from the central bank and measures to contain spending, Finance Minister Ndaba Gaolathe said on Tuesday [21/09]. Gaolathe told an investment conference that the projected deficit for the 12 months to the end of March 2027 was 9.26 billion pula ($646.35 million). (www.reuters.com 22/09/26)