

Thursday May 24, 2012

Stock Markets Rap (as of May 23)

	Close	Chg	(%)
MSCI World	1,187	-13	-1.0
Dow	12,496	-7	-0.1
Nasdaq	2,850	+11	+0.4
S&P 500	1,319	+2	+0.2
Euro Stoxx	2,134	-59	-2.7
FTSE 100	5,266	-137	-2.5
DAX	6,286	-150	-2.3
CAC	3,003	-81	-2.6
ASX 200	4,067	-54	-1.3
Nikkei	8,557	-173	-2.0
Shanghai	2,363	-10	-0.4
Hang Seng	18,786	-253	-1.3
H Shares	9,574	-125	-1.3

	Close	Chg	(%)
FTSE ASEAN	529	-10	-1.8
Singapore	2,780	-43	-1.5
Thailand	1,111	-21	-1.8
Malaysia	1,540	-7	-0.5
Indonesia	3,982	-40	-1.0
Philippines	4,929	-30	-0.6
Vietnam	437	-11	-2.5
Lao PDR	996	0	0.0
Cambodia	785	-11	-1.4

Currencies Rap (as of May 23)

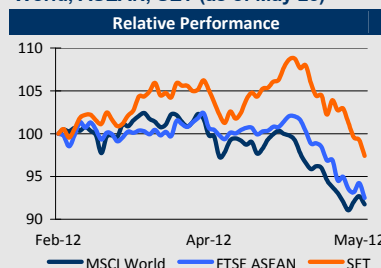
	Last	Chg	(%)
DX	82.09	+0.60	+0.74
USD/EUR	1.2582	-0.01	-0.80
JPY/USD	79.47	-0.49	-0.61
THB/USD	31.53	+0.13	+0.41
VND/USD	20,850	+2.00	+0.01
LAK/USD	8,017.00	+3.50	+0.04
KHR/USD	4,045.00	-1.13	-0.03
MMK/USD	839.10	+1.17	+0.14
VND/THB	660.99	-3.12	-0.47
LAK/THB	254.29	-1.00	-0.39
KHR/THB	128.50	-0.50	-0.39
MMK/THB	26.61	-0.08	-0.31

Commodities Rap (as of May 23)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Gold	1,548.40	-28.20	-1.79
Silver	27.52	-0.66	-2.34
Copper	339.60	-9.10	-2.61
WTI	89.90	-1.76	-1.92
Brent	105.56	-2.85	-2.63
BDI	1,100	-27	-2.40

Source: Bloomberg

World, ASEAN, SET (as of May 23)



Source: Bloomberg

INDOCHINA NEWS

- Myanmar - Central Bank Adds Further Effort to Securities Exchange Formation
- Cambodia - World Bank Forecasts Cambodia's GDP Growth at 6.6%
- Lao PDR - Lao Economy Will See 8.3% Growth This Year: World Bank
- Vietnam - Vietnam's Economy Grows at 5.7%, WB Forecasts
- Vietnam - Hanoi Stock Exchange Introduces New Benchmark
- Vietnam - Rule to Limit Foreign Currency Loans
- Vietnam - Viettel Launches Mobile Network Service in Mozambique
- Vietnam - Sojitz, Daelim Win \$826 Mln Power Deal in Vietnam

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INDOCHINA NEWS

Myanmar - Central Bank Adds Further Effort to Securities Exchange Formation

THE signing of an agreement between the Central Bank of Myanmar and Tokyo Stock Exchange later this month will bring the country a step closer to the formation of a capital market, sources say. "The Central Bank of Myanmar [CBM] will sign a memorandum of understanding with Tokyo Stock Exchange [TSE] and Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd at the end of this month regarding the establishment of a securities exchange and capital market. The signing will take place around May 29," said a source close to the process. [\[Myanmar Times\]](#)

Cambodia - World Bank Forecasts Cambodia's GDP Growth at 6.6%

The World Bank forecast Wednesday that Cambodia's economy would grow by 6.6% this year. The bank said Cambodia had one of the world's fastest growing economies over the over the past 10 years with average annual growth of more than 8%. Stronger-than-expected growth of 6.9% in 2011 reflected a recovery in the flood-damaged agriculture sector and robust expansion of exports, private investment, and consumption. The bank said the impact of economic slowdowns in America and Europe, the main destinations for garment exports, had not yet materialized. [\[Cambodia Herald\]](#)

Lao PDR - Lao Economy Will See 8.3% Growth This Year: World Bank

The World Bank has raised its GDP growth forecast for Laos this year, expressing optimism that agricultural output will rebound. The bank announced the revision of its earlier projection of 7.5% growth to 8.3% when unveiling the East Asia Economic Update mid-year review. According to World Bank, the main driver of Lao GDP growth in 2012 will be the mining sector, which is expected to gain a major boost from the expansion of mining operations and the rising price of gold and copper on the world market. The World Bank had lowered the GDP growth forecast for Laos from 8.3 to 8% in 2011 after the country faced serious impacts from flooding. According to the World Bank, headline inflation in Laos has trended down since November 2011, benefiting from lower food and fuel inflation. The headline inflation fell from 7.9%y-o-y in November to 5.3% in March. [\[Vientiane Times\]](#)

Vietnam - Vietnam's Economy Grows at 5.7%, WB Forecasts

The World Bank (WB) has forecast Vietnam's economic growth at around 5.7% and year-end inflation at less than 10% in 2012. The WB says after a prolonged period of heightened turbulence, Vietnam's economy is gradually entering a more stable macroeconomic environment. Real GDP growth decelerated from 6.8% in 2010 to 5.9% in 2011 and further to 4.0% in 1Q12 as domestic demand slowed, affecting construction, services, and utilities. Pressures on the exchange rate have continued to decline in the first quarter of 2012, as confidence in the domestic currency has gradually picked up. The increased supply of US dollars in the market has enabled the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) to replenish foreign exchange reserves in the first months of 2012, which are reportedly at nearly 7.5 weeks of imports. [\[Voice of Vietnam\]](#)

Vietnam - Hanoi Stock Exchange Introduces New Benchmark

The Hanoi Stock Exchange (HNX) held a conference on May 22 to launch the HNX30 Index which tracks the movement of 30 leading shares by market capitalization and liquidity and is a free-float adjusted index. Enterprises chosen in the basket are those meeting standards of liquidity and listings. They are not under supervision, warning or restricted trading on the exchange. The selection of stocks included in HNX30 will be adjusted every six months. HNX30 Index is expected to help develop index-based trading products such as ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) and stock index future contracts. Hanoi Stock Exchange will launch the new indicator by the end of June, 2012. [\[Saigon GP Daily\]](#)

Vietnam - Rule to Limit Foreign Currency Loans

Individuals, along with co-operatives and other economic institutions which are not enterprises, would no longer be allowed to borrow from foreign sources under the provisions of a draft regulation newly released by the State Bank of Viet Nam. Under the draft ordinance, an individual needing to mobilise foreign financial resources to carry out an investment project would have to set up an enterprise and borrow in accordance with current laws and regulations. The restriction would be aimed at enabling the State to maintain stricter controls over foreign exchange, State Bank Governor Nguyen Van Binh said in a statement sent to the Prime Minister. It would help gradually limit the use of foreign currency domestically and lure foreign currency sources out of general circulation and into the nation's credit institutions, he said. [\[Vietnam News Agency\]](#)

Vietnam - Viettel Launches Mobile Network Service in Mozambique

The Viettel Group on Tuesday officially launched its telecom network in Mozambique, under the brand name Movitel. The mobile network is a joint venture with Mozambique's SPI and Invespar, based in Maputo City in Mozambique. Movitel is the third telecom network in Mozambique, and the second largest, which accounts for 70% of the total network infrastructure with 1,800 transmission stations and other ongoing infrastructure construction in the country. Viettel has launched its services in 5 countries including Vietnam, Lao, Cambodia, Haiti and Mozambique. [\[Saigon GP Daily\]](#)

Vietnam - Sojitz, Daelim Win \$826 Mln Power Deal in Vietnam

A consortium between Japan's trading house Sojitz Corp and South Korea's Daelim Industrial Co Ltd has won a \$826 million contract to supply machinery to the biggest thermal power plant in northern Vietnam. Under the deal signed with Petrovietnam Construction Corp on Tuesday, the consortium will install and test-run boilers, turbines and two generators for the \$1.6 billion coal-fired Thai Binh 2 plant. The 1,200-megawatt plant is scheduled to become operational from 2015 to generate 6.7 billion kilowatt hours per year. PVC, the construction arm of state oil and gas group Petrovietnam, is in charge of engineering, procurement and construction for the plant, invested by Petrovietnam Power Corp. [\[Reuters\]](#)