

25 September 2020

Global Markets Research

Mid-day Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – MYR Neutral to Bullish

USD/MYR opened 0.3% lower at 4.1575. This comes after USD holds steady amid cautious sentiment and after FTSE Russell's decision to keep Malaysia on the watch list for possible exclusion from the WGBI index. Daily outlook is neutral to bearish for USD/MYR but we expect the pair to stay neutral to slightly bullish next week in anticipation of a sustained USD and domestic political uncertainties. Bullish momentum is picking up and USD/MYR looks set to head towards the upper Bollinger band of 4.1834 if it breaches the 4.18 handle.

1-Month Outlook – MYR bearish

We turn bullish on USD/MYR expecting USD strength to sustain at least until November's general election. Lacklustre recovery and especially slower job growth pose downside risk to this view, but this is outweighed by higher possibility for a USD reversal after months of weakness as well as rising volatility ahead of the election.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.1405	4.1510	4.1665	4.1800	4.2000

MYR Crosses

EUR/MYR



EUR/MYR Neutral

EUR/MYR opened 0.1% higher at 4.8612 and is expected to retain its current neutral bias amid cautious global sentiment. No change to our bearish outlook in EUR in the more medium term over expectation that the long EUR position could be trimmed down further. Recently higher cases in Europe also trigger renewed concerns of stricter social distancing rules which could hamper the weak recovery especially in the services sector. We look towards tonight's positioning data for guidance.

a	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
EUR/MYR	4.8150	4.8300	4.8621	4.8837	4.9159

GBP/MYR



GBP/MYR Neutral

GBP/MYR opened little changed at 5.3112 as GBP has now stabilized after the recent losses. No change to our view that GBP is bearish in the short and more medium term on the back of Brexit uncertainties and poor recovery prospect. The UK has recorded its highest single-day new cases, which could trigger more containment measures on the part of the government.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.2494	5.2632	5.3125	5.3187	5.3350

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral

AUD/MYR opened unchanged at 2.9383 and is continuing to trade steadily in a quiet market. Firmer USD is likely to weigh on AUD in the short term. Nonetheless, RBA has remained optimistic over recovery outlook, thus an improvement of global risk sentiment could see another upward reversal in the more medium term.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.9000	2.9300	2.9405	2.9800	3.0000

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Hong Leong Bank Berhad

Fixed Income & Economic Research, Global Markets

Level 8, Hong Leong Tower

6, Jalan Damansara

Bukit Damansara

50490 Kuala Lumpur

Tel: 603-2081 1221

Fax: 603-2081 8936

Email: HLMarkets@hlbb.hongleong.com.my

DISCLAIMER

This report is for information purposes only and does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular recipient. The information contained herein does not constitute the provision of investment advice and is not intended as an offer or solicitation with respect to the purchase or sale of any of the financial instruments mentioned in this report and will not form the basis or a part of any contract or commitment whatsoever.

The information contained in this publication is derived from data obtained from sources believed by Hong Leong Bank Berhad ("HLBB") to be reliable and in good faith, but no warranties or guarantees, representations are made by HLBB with regard to the accuracy, completeness or suitability of the data. Any opinions expressed reflect the current judgment of the authors of the report and do not necessarily represent the opinion of HLBB or any of the companies within the Hong Leong Bank Group ("HLB Group"). The opinions reflected herein may change without notice and the opinions do not necessarily correspond to the opinions of HLBB. HLBB does not have an obligation to amend, modify or update this report or to otherwise notify a reader or recipient thereof in the event that any matter stated herein, or any opinion, projection, forecast or estimate set forth herein, changes or subsequently becomes inaccurate.

HLB Group, their directors, employees and representatives do not have any responsibility or liability to any person or recipient (whether by reason of negligence, negligent misstatement or otherwise) arising from any statement, opinion or information, expressed or implied, arising out of, contained in or derived from or omission from the reports or matter. HLBB may, to the extent permitted by law, buy, sell or hold significantly long or short positions; act as investment and/or commercial bankers; be represented on the board of the issuers; and/or engage in 'market making' of securities mentioned herein. The past performance of financial instruments is not indicative of future results. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that statements of facts made in this report are accurate, all estimates, projections, forecasts, expressions of opinion and other subjective judgments contained in this report are based on assumptions considered to be reasonable as of the date of the document in which they are contained and must not be construed as a representation that the matters referred to therein will occur. Any projections or forecasts mentioned in this report may not be achieved due to multiple risk factors including without limitation market volatility, sector volatility, corporate actions, the unavailability of complete and accurate information. No assurance can be given that any opinion described herein would yield favorable investment results. Recipients who are not market professional or institutional investor customer of HLBB should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor prior to taking any investment decision based on the recommendations in this report.

HLBB may provide hyperlinks to websites of entities mentioned in this report, however the inclusion of a link does not imply that HLBB endorses, recommends or approves any material on the linked page or accessible from it. Such linked websites are accessed entirely at your own risk. HLBB does not accept responsibility whatsoever for any such material, nor for consequences of its use.

This report is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any state, country or other jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation. This report is for the use of the addressees only and may not be redistributed, reproduced or passed on to any other person or published, in part or in whole, for any purpose, without the prior, written consent of HLBB. The manner of distributing this report may be restricted by law or regulation in certain countries. Persons into whose possession this report may come are required to inform themselves about and to observe such restrictions. By accepting this report, a recipient hereof agrees to be bound by the foregoing limitations.