

22 January 2021

## Global Markets Research

### Mid-day Currency Outlook

#### USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

#### Intraday Thoughts – MYR Neutral to Bullish

USD/MYR opened little changed at 4.0315. Pair has broken 4.03 support in the previous session and the downtrend is likely to continue amid bearish USD sentiment. BNM's decision to maintain OPR and its neutral policy stance also benefits MYR to some extent. In the short term, we turn neutral to bearish on USD/MYR after BNM's policy pause while at the same time expecting US stimulus optimism to fade now that Biden is settled in.

#### 1-Month Outlook – MYR Bullish

We are bearish on USD/MYR on a one-month basis. Recent USD weakness has strengthened the downward trajectory in the pair. Expectations for further improvement in economic prospects in 2021 following progress in vaccination should bode well with investor risk appetite, hence our bearish view on the USD and bullish view on the MYR as a potential beneficiary of inflows into emerging markets, especially EM Asia, supported by an Asia-led recovery story.

|         | S2     | S1     | Indicative | R1     | R2     |
|---------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|
| USD/MYR | 4.0200 | 4.0300 | 4.0355     | 4.0500 | 4.0700 |

## MYR Crosses

### EUR/MYR



### EUR/MYR Neutral

EUR/MYR opened 0.2% higher at 4.9015, strengthening to above 4.91 as EUR rose against USD alongside other major currencies. Overall momentum still looks muted. We are neutral on the pair amid a lack of any major driver.

|         | S2     | S1     | Indicative | R1     | R2     |
|---------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|
| EUR/MYR | 4.8708 | 4.8830 | 4.9133     | 4.9070 | 4.9225 |

### GBP/MYR



### GBP/MYR Neutral to Bullish

GBP/MYR opened little changed at 5.5314, trading at recent ranges. We are neutral to bullish on the pair as GBP continues to ride on risk-on sentiment after breaking 1.37.

|         | S2     | S1     | Indicative | R1     | R2     |
|---------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|
| GBP/MYR | 5.4688 | 5.4965 | 5.5366     | 5.5452 | 5.5560 |

### AUD/MYR



### AUD/MYR Neutral

AUD/MYR opened little changed at 3.1263 and hovers at above 3.12 since trading began. Improved risk sentiment alongside more optimistic outlook for Australia's economy helped drive the pair; upside however is limited by stronger MYR.

|         | S2     | S1     | Indicative | R1     | R2     |
|---------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|
| AUD/MYR | 3.1010 | 3.1143 | 3.1250     | 3.1409 | 3.1551 |

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

**Hong Leong Bank Berhad**

Fixed Income &amp; 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](mailto: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.

Potential and actual conflict of interest may arise from the activities of HLB Group. HLB Group constitute a diversified financial services group. These entities engage in a wide range of commercial and investment banking, brokerage, funds management, hedging transactions and other activities for their own account or the account of others. In the ordinary course of their business, HLB Group may effect transactions for their own account or for the account of their customers and hold long or short positions in the financial instruments. HLB Group, in connection with its business activities, may possess or acquire material information about the financial instruments. Such activities and information may involve or have an effect on the financial instruments. HLB Group have no obligation to disclose such information about the financial instruments or their activities.

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.