

8 May 2025

## Global Markets Research

### Midday Currency Outlook

#### USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

#### Intraday Thoughts – Slightly Bullish

USD/MYR opened 0.11% lower at 4.2350, but rebounded to 4.2657 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is slightly bullish as the pair continues to flirt around the oversold level and on broad USD strength against most regional currencies, the greenback supported by Powell's reassurance overnight that the US economy and labour market remain solid, thus facilitating the central bank to adopt a wait-and-see attitude for now while waiting for the outcomes from the trade negotiations. Today marks the first BNM MPC meeting after Trump's April 2 tariff and will be the key risk for this pair today. At the point of writing, concerns over a dovish tilt appears to have weighed on the MYR this morning, but consensus has maintained their expectations for the OPR to remain unchanged at 3.00% in this meeting, in line with our house view.

#### 1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

We prefer to stay neutral on USD/MYR, as we expect investors to continue to tread cautiously amid the slew of trade negotiations, and in a tug of war between nervousness over growth and concerns over rising press pressures from the recent slew of tariffs. At the point of writing, economic and labour market indicators have remained resilient albeit cooler, giving the central bank leeway to maintain status quo for now, a fact supported by Fed Chair Powell himself, lending continuous support for the Dollar in the near term. We nonetheless expect a pulling back in the second half of the year with the impact from the tariff hikes more profoundly felt, in line with our expectations for three 25bps rate cuts this year, and a softer Dollar towards end-2025. On the domestic front, we expect the BNM to maintain its OPR rate to fully assess the development and impact from the new tariffs to the economy, as such, continuously lend some support MYR for the next month. However, any dovish shift at today's MPC meeting may have some knee-jerk repercussions on MYR movement.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.2000	4.2199	4.2657	4.2969	4.3391

## USD/SGD

### USD/SGD Neutral

USD/SGD opened 0.01% lower at 1.2941, whipsawed around the 1.2929-1.2950 level before settling at 1.2942 at the point of writing. With this, we have a neutral outlook for this pair today, eyeing trading range between 1.2894-1.2974. It will be an empty economic calendar for Singapore, but we will be watching out for the jobless claims and labour cost/productivity prints on the US front.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.2846	1.2894	1.2942	1.2974	1.3006

## MYR Crosses

### SGD/MYR

### SGD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

SGD/MYR opened 0.24% lower at 3.2753 before paring all its losses to trade at 3.2966 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish on SGD strength against regionals this morning. Besides BNM's OPR decision, Malaysia's IPI print is also on deck, where consensus is expecting a pick-up to +2.1% y/y in March.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.2592	3.2711	3.2966	3.3004	3.3210

### GBP/MYR

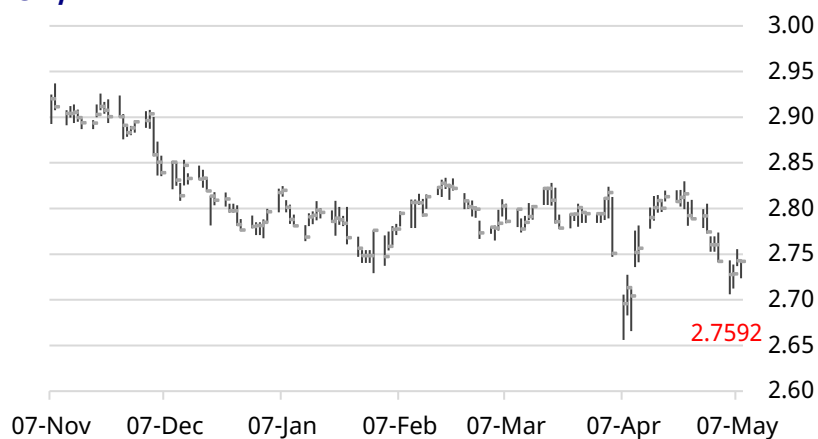
### GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

GBP/MYR opened 0.42% lower at 5.6292, but make a sharp rebound to 5.6932 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish as GBP/USD rebounded strongly to 1.3342 level at the point of writing, but gains likely capped in anticipation of a 25bps rate cut by the BOE later today vis-a-viz a pause from BNM.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.6062	5.6297	5.6932	5.7325	5.7979

## AUD/MYR



## AUD/MYR Slightly Bullish

AUD/MYR opened 0.67% lower at 2.7239, but recovered strongly above its flatline at 2.7592 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is slightly bullish given the upper trajectory post opening, and as AUD/USD trended up to around the 0.6460 level at the point of writing. It will be an empty economic calendar on the Aussie front but noises will stem from the trade deals currently under negotiation, especially between its largest trading partners US-China.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.7266	2.7345	2.7592	2.7844	2.8268

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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