

21 October 2025

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

USD/MYR opened 0.03% lower at 4.2253 and slid to 4.2240 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish amid broad USD weakness and MYR strength in the early morning session. MYR is likely well supported by the upward surprise in Malaysia's advanced 3Q GDP print released last Friday while USD is expected to stay soft as the Senate again blocked GOP's stopgap funding bill, suggesting no end to the US government shutdown for now. Meanwhile, the Fed has entered its communications blackout period over the weekend but we will be watching for the upcoming US CPI due end week as well as the meeting between Presidents Trump and Xi.

1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

We prefer to stay neutral on USD/MYR as we expect some consolidation in the USD following the recent USD weakness. Fundamental wise, the recent FOMC statement has flagged the shift in balance of risks, notably increased downside risks to employment, balanced against Fed Chair Jerome Powell continued cautiousness over signs of permanence/transitory impact from the recent tariff hikes and less than aggressive rate cut stance view by the Fed vis-à-vis market. With Powell describing the latest 25bps Fed rate cut as a "risk management cut," amid upgrades in the GDP, core-PCE and labour data (ironically), we thus opine that any policy easing going forward will remain gradual for now. As it is, while consensus and in-house are expecting a 50bps rate cut for the remaining of 2025 and another 50bps in 2026, the Fed dot plot signals a smaller quantum of 25bps by end-2026. On the domestic front, BNM delivered a more neutral tone in its latest policy statement, removing the slight tinge of cautiousness that we saw previously, while highlighting numerous positive development and potential upsides. This should have wiped out expectations for any further easing in the near term, and reaffirmed our view for no further adjustment in the OPR for the rest of the year and probably into 2026.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.2080	4.2168	4.2240	4.2304	4.2344

USD/SGD

USD/SGD Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

USD/SGD opened flat at 1.2943 and slid to 1.2938 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish amid USD weakness this morning while a better-than-expected trade data for Singapore will lend support to SGD today. Attention for the week ahead for Singapore will be on its CPI and IPI prints later in the week.



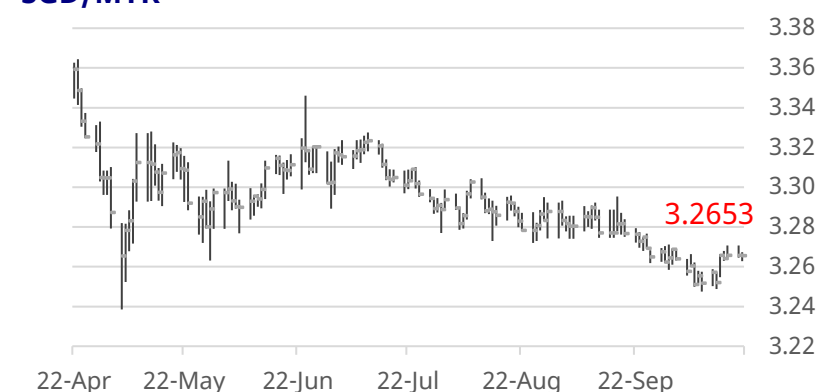
	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.2880	1.2910	1.2938	1.2960	1.2980

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR

SGD/MYR Neutral

SGD/MYR opened 0.05% higher at 3.2668 before making a retreat to 3.2653 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral in a tug-of-war between SGD and MYR strength, eyeing a narrow range of 3.2624-3.2667 today.

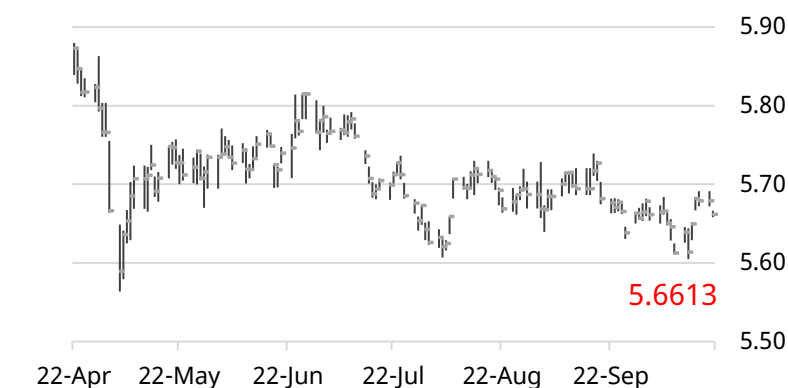


	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.2613	3.2624	3.2653	3.2667	3.2745

GBP/MYR

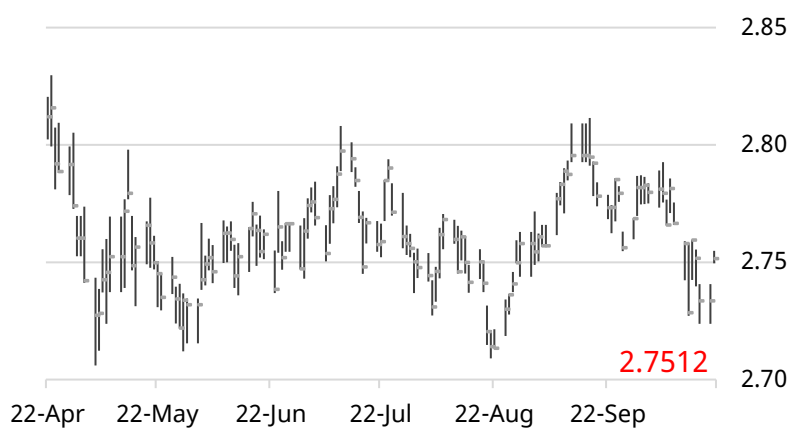
GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

GBP/MYR opened 0.24% lower at 5.6650 before sliding to 5.6613 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish amid broad GBP weakness, the latter seeing GBP/USD trading in red around the 1.3400 handle. Focus this week will be on the UK CPI as well as BOE speak from Governor Andrew Bailey.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.5718	5.6252	5.6613	5.6783	5.6800

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Slightly Bullish

AUD/MYR opened 0.74% higher at 2.7538 before paring its gains to trade at 2.7512 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is slightly bullish in anticipation that AUD will outperform after the US signed a \$8.5bn agreement with Australia to boost US' access to critical minerals and rare earths.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.7401	2.7428	2.7512	2.7551	2.7626

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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