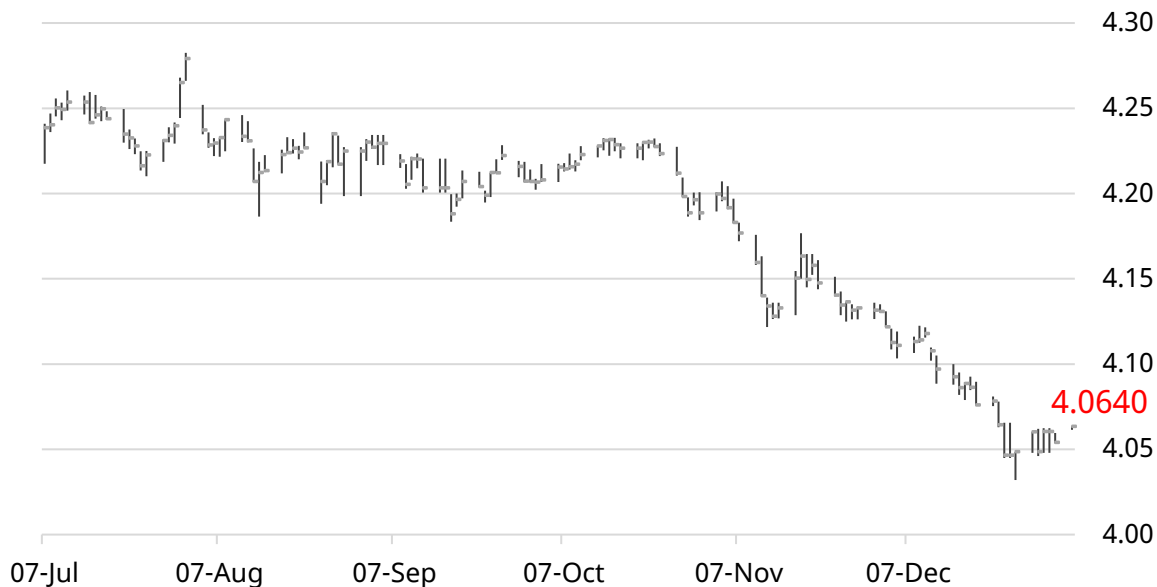


5 January 2026

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

USD/MYR opened 0.22% higher at 4.0630 and trended up to 4.0640 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish with global risk sentiment likely to turn more cautious given the heightened geopolitical tension in Venezuela. This will likely lift appetite for haven USD and see traders paring some of their exposure for risky assets and emerging currencies. Nothing on deck on the local front, but we will be watching out for the US manufacturing ISM tonight, where expectations is that it will improve slightly to 48.4 in December from 48.2 previously.

1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

We prefer to stay neutral on USD/MYR as investors and FOMC members await the deluge of US economic data but on the fundamental front, we opine that there is no change in the outlook with regards to limited pass through from tariffs to goods inflation at this juncture and increasingly softer labour market. That said, concerns over persistence inflationary pressure will likely keep hawkish FOMC members on their toes, while the doves will likely focus on the softer labour market and spending data, one that could continue keep the Fed divided on the next move. While there is concern over the quality and reliability of the data since the weeks-long shutdown could have impacted the collection and reporting processes, there is no change to our current house view for another two quarter point cuts in 2026, as well as our weakening Dollar outlook in the more medium term. On the domestic front, BNM continued to deliver a neutral note in its latest policy statement, with the overall tone largely unchanged with balanced risks on both the upside and downside in our view. This reaffirmed our view for an extended OPR pause going into 2026.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.0497	4.0518	4.0640	4.0677	4.0704

USD/SGD

USD/SGD Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

USD/SGD opened 0.29% higher at 1.2897 before paring some of the gains to trade at 1.2880 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish for the same reasons above for USD/MYR, but gains likely capped given the recent upward surprise in Singapore's 2025 GDP, which will likely see MAS maintaining its policy stance in January.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.2822	1.2841	1.2880	1.2888	1.2921

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR

SGD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

SGD/MYR opened 0.08% higher at 3.1548 before trending to 3.1569 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish with a risk-off sentiment likely to benefit safer SGD rather than MYR today. Key risk today is the upcoming Singapore's retail sales print, where expectations is that it will accelerate slightly to 4.9% y/y in November from 4.5% y/y previously.

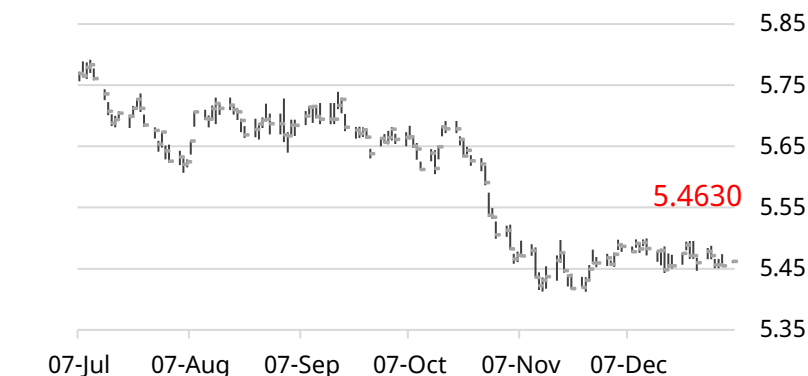


	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.1461	3.1492	3.1569	3.1584	3.1645

GBP/MYR

GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

GBP/MYR opened 0.10% higher at 5.4597 and trended up to 5.4630 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish given the higher opening and upper trajectory subsequent to that. Key risk today will be the upcoming mortgage approvals data. Although expected to be softer, it should remain resilient echoing the recent strength in home prices.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.4417	5.4481	5.4630	5.4673	5.4801

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral

AUD/MYR opened flattish at 2.7155 before trending down to 2.7142 at the point of writing. With AUD/USD volatile and trading between the 0.6675-0.6696 range, we prefer to stay neutral for this pair today. Nothing on the Aussie front today, but this morning, we saw Australia's largest trading partner, China, reporting relatively steady services PMI (52.0 vs 52.1).

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.7022	2.7089	2.7142	2.7215	2.7274

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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