16 July 2026

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

USD/MYR opened 0.29% lower at 4.0675 before paring its losses to trade at 4.0723 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish with the softer than expected US PPI continuing to weigh on the greenback, while on the Ringgit front, the currency is also trading stronger against most G10 and regional peers. Just a recap, PPI unexpectedly fell 0.3% m/m in June following a downwardly revised 0.6% m/m increase the prior month, further curtailing bets for Fed rate hikes, and today, we will be watching out for the latest retail sales number on how consumers are faring.

1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

We are neutral on this pair on expectations that investors will stay cautious with the current geopolitical space still fluid, and on the fundamental front, supported by expectations that the FOMC will maintain rates at this level in the near term with the economy is expanding at a still solid pace, labour market remains resilient albeit softer as reflected by the latest NFP, while inflation risks remained elevated albeit likely to ease, in line with the broadly softer crude oil prices as compared to the beginning of the war in March. On the domestic front, there is also no change in our view that BNM will maintain the OPR at 2.75% in the foreseeable future, given BNM's firm expectations for continued moderate growth for 2026 (4.0-5.0% vs HLB: 4.6%) and benign price outlook (1.5-2.5% vs HLB: 1.9%), and as the central bank maintained a neutral stance in its latest policy statement, albeit with some positive twists such as resilient global growth to stronger than expected exports performance for Malaysia. In our opinion, this should certainly eliminate expectations for rate cut but not enough to signal a near term rate hike in our view, keeping Ringgit well supported in the near term.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.0575	4.0685	4.0723	4.0850	4.0905

USD/SGD

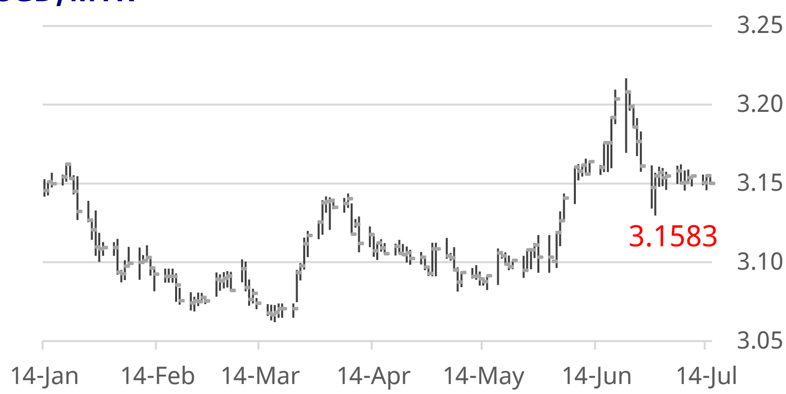
USD/SGD Neutral

USD/SGD opened flat at 1.2890, slid to 1.2881 before rebounding to just above its flatline at 1.2893 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral, eyeing trading between 1.2869-1.2919 today. Key risk is the US retail sales, where expectations is that growth will ease to 0.2% m/m in June from 0.9% m/m previously.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.2847	1.2869	1.2893	1.2919	1.2947

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR

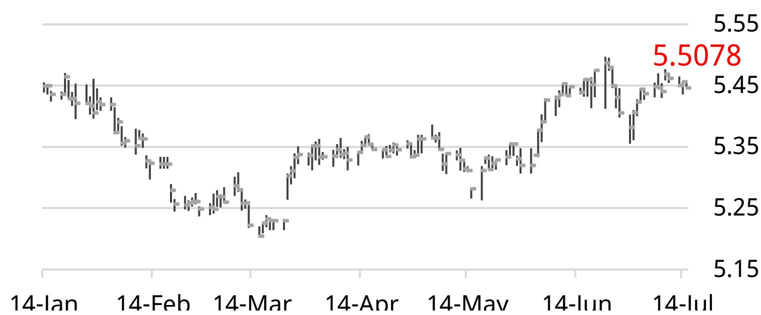


SGD/MYR Neutral

SGD/MYR opened 0.28% higher at 3.1652 before shaving its gains to trade at 3.1583 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral with gains from the sharply higher opening expected to narrow amid broad MYR strength. Nothing on deck today but all eyes will be on Singapore's NODX early tomorrow, followed by Malaysia's GDP and CPI.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.1447	3.1506	3.1583	3.1651	3.1753

GBP/MYR

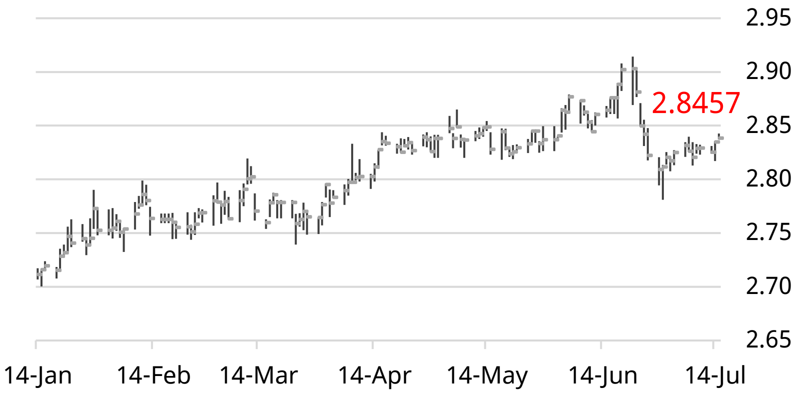


GBP/MYR Bullish

GBP/MYR opened 0.87% higher at 5.5098 before easing slightly to 5.5092 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is bullish given the sharply higher opening, and as GBP/USD continues to trade firmly above the 1.3500 level after Shabana Mahmood emerged as the front runner for the Chancellor position.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.4365	5.4495	5.5078	5.5144	5.5418

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

AUD/MYR opened 0.08% higher at 2.8523 before making a retreat below its flatline at 2.8457 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish, hit by double whammy of MYR strength and broad AUD weakness. AUD/USD is seen trading below the 0.7000 handle this morning, as Australia's consumer inflation expectations decelerated sharply to 4.7% in July.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.8322	2.8410	2.8457	2.8547	2.8596

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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