

Wednesday, February 01, 2017

Highlights

Global

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US president Trump continued to shake financial markets on concern over
the USD, the latest being his comments that Japan and China were devaluing
their currencies ("they play the devaluation market and we sit there like a
bunch of dummies"), which coming on the back of recent immigration curbs,
prompted Wall Street and the USD to retreat and UST bonds to rally. Given
the political drama is likely to play on for Trump's key post nominees
including that for the Supreme Court, the Fed is expected to stay sidelined
this week with the FOMC statement nuancing of key interest. Expect that the
safe haven bids to find support in Asian markets today. The economic data
calendar comprises of the slate of global manufacturing PMIs including
China, US' manufacturing ISM, construction spending and ADP employment
change, Thailand and Indonesia's CPI prints.
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The Bank of Japan kept its policy settings static yesterday but hiked its growth forecasts by 0.2% points for 2017-2018.

Consumer confidence fell from a 15-year high to 111.8 in Jan, as the improvement in the present situation gauge (from 123.5 to 129.7) was outweighed by the slippage in the expectations gauge (from 106.4 to 99.5) amid the ongoing policy uncertainties from a Trump administration. The Chicago purchasing managers index also fell more than expected from 54.6 in Dec to 50.3 in Jan, the lowest since May, as the post-election euphoria faded. Meanwhile, the employment cost index eased from 0.6% to 0.5% in 4Q16 notwithstanding a tight labour market.

Inflation accelerated from 1.1% in Dec16 to 1.8% yoy in Jan17, posing a potential dilemma to the ECB. Note ECB's Lautenschlaeger and Bundesbank's Weidmann have argued for an exit strategy.

Bank loans growth accelerated from 1.1% yoy (+0.4% mom) in Nov to 2.9% yoy (+1.1% mom) in Dec16, the highest since Feb15, and was lifted mainly by the rebound in business loans from -0.2% to +2.8% yoy (+1.7% mom), largely driven by the turnaround in manufacturing (from -6.2% to +0.9% yoy), building/construction (from -0.4% to +1.7% yoy), as well as sustained momentum in financial institutions (+16.9% yoy). Consumer loans also remain healthy at +3.1% yoy (+0.5% mom), up from +3.0% yoy in Nov, as housing/bridging loans accelerated to 4.0% yoy (previously 3.7% yoy) and car loans also improved. The latest quarterly business expectations survey for manufacturers showed a modest improvement with a net 2%, led by electronics whereas the general manufacturing and infocomms & consumer electronics clusters were not upbeat. Meanwhile, a net 14% of services firms tips less favourable business conditions for 1H17, suggesting the outlook is still mixed at best.

Former Minister of Finance, Chatib Basri, said in an interview with Bloomberg that protectionist trade policies could dash hopes of Indonesia seeking to emulate China's early development through industrialization. Because of a rise in insular policies pursued by the likes of Donald Trump, he added, emerging markets could no longer depend on trade to boost growth.

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Major Markets

- **US:** Equities pared losses in late afternoon trade as the negative reaction from Trump's executive order continue to reverberate through the markets. Losses in industrials and financials were offset by gains in healthcare and utilities, as the S&P 500 and Nasdaq ended essentially unchanged, while the Dow lost 0.54%. Trump aside, earnings for large corporates has performed decently thus far, with the majority beating profit and revenue estimates. This provided some fundamental basis for the recent upswing, and should continue to persist in line with economic improvement. VIX nudged higher to 11.99 after yesterday's large spike. Meanwhile, US Treasuries rose as equities fell, pushing yields to week-long lows. 2- and 10-year benchmark yields traded lower by 1-4 bps, and closed at 1.20% and 2.45% respectively.
- Singapore: The STI slipped 0.59% to close at 3046.80 yesterday, and may consolidate again today
 on Trump-induced policy uncertainties. STI could see a range of 3020-3050 range given muted CNY
 volumes, and on weak leads from Wall Street overnight and morning slippage in Nikkei. With the
 flight to safety in UST bonds overnight, the SGS bond rally may sustain today.
- Malaysia: The prices of RON95 and RON97 petroleum grades are reportedly set to go up by 20 sen
 for the month of February, compared to the month before. RON95 will be priced at RM2.30 per litre
 and RON97 at RM2.60. The retail price of RON95 is said to be set according to the
 average monthly prices of fuel in the world market, while taking in the influence of exchange rate, as
 well.

Bond Market Updates

- Market Commentary: The SGD dollar swap curve traded downwards yesterday, with swap rates trading 4-5bps lower across all tenors. In the broader dollar space, the spread on JACI IG Corporates rose 1bps to 195bps, while the yield on JACI HY Corporates changed little at 6.88%. 10y UST yield fell 4bps to 2.45%, reaching its lowest level since 24 January. The rally towards safe haven assets began as Trump commented that Japan and China engaged in currency devaluation, which drove down the dollar. The January Chicago Purchasing Managers' Index ("PMI") reported an unexpected drop which added to Treasury strength.
- New Issues: Chinese property developer Xinhu Zhongbao Co Ltd has hired banks for a planned USD bond issue of up to USD700mn.



Key Financial Indicators

Foreign Exchange						
	Day Close	% Change		Day Close	% Change	
DXY	99.512	-0.91%	USD-SGD	1.4098	-0.80%	
USD-JPY	112.800	-0.85%	EUR-SGD	1.5224	0.16%	
EUR-USD	1.0798	0.96%	JPY-SGD	1.2499	0.07%	
AUD-USD	0.7585	0.40%	GBP-SGD	1.7734	-0.05%	
GBP-USD	1.2579	0.74%	AUD-SGD	1.0694	-0.38%	
USD-MYR	4.4285	-0.04%	NZD-SGD	1.0308	-0.44%	
USD-CNY	6.8840		CHF-SGD	1.4253	-0.16%	
USD-IDR	13369	0.15%	SGD-MYR	3.1188	0.42%	
USD-VND	22593		SGD-CNY	4.8888	1.18%	

Equity and Commodity						
Index	Value	Net change				
DJIA	19,864.09	-107.04				
S&P	2,278.87	-2.03				
Nasdaq	5,614.79	1.07				
Nikkei 225	19,041.34	-327.51				
STI	3,046.80	-18.05				
KLCI	1,671.54	-14.82				
JCI	5,294.10	-8.56				
Baltic Dry	800.00	-16.00				
VIX	11.99	0.11				

Interbank Offer Rates (%)						
Tenor	EURIBOR	Change	Tenor	USD LIBOR	Change	
1M	-0.3720		O/N	0.6917		
2M	-0.3400		1M	0.7800		
3M	-0.3280		2M	0.8411		
6M	-0.2440		3M	1.0340		
9M	-0.1590		6M	1.3566		
12M	-0.1000		12M	1.7248		

Government Bond Yields (%)						
Tenor	SGS (chg)	UST (chg)				
2Y	1.29 (-0.07)	1.20 (-0.01)				
5Y	1.73 (-0.07)	1.91 (-0.04)				
10Y	2.30 (-0.08)	2.45 (-0.04)				
15Y	2.59 (-0.08)					
20Y	2.68 (-0.08)					
30Y	2.70 (-0.08)	3.06 (-0.02)				

Eurozone & Russia Update							
	2Y Bond YI	ds (bpschg)	10Y Bond	Ylds (bpschg)	10Y Bund Spread		
Portugal	0.07	-2.40	4.19	-5.00	3.76		
Italy	0.04	-4.20	2.26	-6.60	1.83		
Ireland	-0.44	-10.50	1.18	-2.50	0.74		
Greece	8.86	21.20	7.82	20.50	7.38		
Spain	-0.25	-1.70	1.60	-3.20	1.16		
Russia	2.39	-1.30	4.32	-1.50	3.88		

1,208.6

17.543

	Value	Change
LIBOR-OIS	34.35	-0.36
EURIBOR-OIS	2.30	-0.10
TED	52.13	

3,230.0

351.6

-0.40%

-4.20%

Financial Spread (bps)

Commodities Futures					
Energy	Futures	% chg	Soft Commodities	Futures	% chg
WTI (per barrel)	52.81	0.34%	Coffee (per lb)	1.496	-1.06%
Brent (per barrel)	55.70	0.85%	Cotton (per lb)	0.7494	1.08%
Heating Oil (per gallon)	1.6117	0.31%	Sugar (per lb)	0.2045	0.69%
Gasoline (per gallon)	1.5256	1.34%	Orange Juice (per lb)	1.7290	-2.78%
Natural Gas (per MMBtu)	3.1170	-3.56%	Cocoa (per mt)	2,103	1.20%
Base Metals	Futures	% chg	Grains	Futures	% chg
Copper (per mt)	5,991.0	2.94%	Wheat (per bushel)	4.2075	1.63%
Nickel (per mt)	9,910.5	2.86%	Soybean (per bushel)	10.245	0.17%
Aluminium (per mt)	1,807.0	0.96%	Corn (per bushel)	3.5975	0.56%
Precious Metals	Futures	% chg	Asian Commodities	Futures	% chg

1.29%

2.28%

Crude Palm Oil (MYR/MT)

Rubber (JPY/KG)

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters (Note that rates are for reference only)

Gold (per oz)

Silver (per oz)



Key Economic Indicators

Date Time		Event		Survey	Actual	Prior	Revised
01/31/2017 07:30	JN	Jobless Rate	Dec	3.10%	3.10%	3.10%	
01/31/2017 07:30	JN	Job-To-Applicant Ratio	Dec	1.42	1.43	1.41	
01/31/2017 07:30	JN	Overall Household Spending YoY	Dec	-0.90%	-0.30%	-1.50%	
01/31/2017 07:50	JN	Industrial Production YoY	Dec P	3.00%	3.00%	4.60%	
01/31/2017 08:01	UK	GfK Consumer Confidence	Jan	-8	-5	-7	
01/31/2017 08:30	ΑU	NAB Business Confidence	Dec		6	5	6
01/31/2017 08:30	AU	Private Sector Credit YoY	Dec	5.40%	5.60%	5.40%	
01/31/2017 10:56	JN	BOJ Short-Term Policy Rate	Jan-31	-0.10%	-0.10%	-0.10%	
01/31/2017 10:56	JN	BOJ Long-Term Policy Rate	Jan-31	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
01/31/2017 13:00	JN	Housing Starts YoY	Dec	8.30%	3.90%	6.70%	
01/31/2017 14:30	FR	GDP YoY	4Q A	1.10%	1.10%	1.00%	0.90%
01/31/2017 15:00	GE	Retail Sales YoY	Dec	0.50%	-1.10%	3.20%	3.50%
01/31/2017 15:21	PH	Bank Lending YoY	Dec		16.00%	17.40%	
01/31/2017 15:30	TH	Exports YoY	Dec		5.60%	10.10%	
01/31/2017 15:30	TH	Trade Balance	Dec	 #2002	\$2047m	\$2791m	
01/31/2017 15:30	TH FR	BoP Current Account Balance	Dec	\$3093m	\$3719m	\$3195m	0.500/
01/31/2017 15:45	FR	PPI YoY	Dec	 1.20%	1.70%	-0.20% 0.80%	-0.50%
01/31/2017 15:45	FR	CPI EU Harmonized YoY CPI YoY	Jan P		1.60%		
01/31/2017 15:45 01/31/2017 16:55	GE	Unemployment Change (000's)	Jan P Jan	1.10% -5k	1.40% -26k	0.60% -17k	 -20k
01/31/2017 16:55	GE	Unemployment Claims Rate SA	Jan	6.00%	5.90%	6.00%	-2UK
01/31/2017 10:55	UK	Mortgage Approvals	Dec	6.00% 69.2k	67.9k	6.00% 67.5k	
	UK	Money Supply M4 MoM				0.40%	
01/31/2017 17:30		,	Dec	0.909/	-0.50%		
01/31/2017 18:00	EC	Unemployment Rate	Dec	9.80%	9.60%	9.80%	9.70%
01/31/2017 18:00	EC	GDP SA YoY	4Q A	1.70%	1.80%	1.70%	1.80%
01/31/2017 18:00	EC	CPI Estimate YoY	Jan Jan ^	1.50%	1.80%	1.10%	
01/31/2017 18:00	EC	CPI Core YoY	Jan A	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	
01/31/2017 18:00	IT	PPI MoM	Dec		0.60%	-0.20%	
01/31/2017 21:30	US	Employment Cost Index	4Q	0.60%	0.50%	0.60%	
01/31/2017 21:30	CA	GDP MoM	Nov	0.30%	0.40%	-0.30%	-0.20%
01/31/2017 21:30	CA	Industrial Product Price MoM	Dec	0.50%	0.40%	0.30%	0.40%
01/31/2017 22:45	US	Chicago Purchasing Manager	Jan	55	50.3	54.6	53.9
01/31/2017 23:00	US	Conf. Board Consumer	Jan	112.8	111.8	113.7	113.3
02/01/2017 00:00	NZ	QV House Prices YoY	Jan		13.50%	12.50%	
02/01/2017 05:45	NZ	Unemployment Rate	4Q	4.80%	5.20%	4.90%	
02/01/2017 05:45	NZ	Employment Change YoY	4Q	6.10%	5.80%	6.10%	
02/01/2017 05:43	AU	AiG Perf of Mfg Index	Jan	0.1076	51.2	55.4	
02/01/2017 00:30	SK	Industrial Production YoY	Dec	2.20%	4.30%	4.80%	5.30%
02/01/2017 07:00	SK	Exports YoY	Jan	9.00%	4.30 /6	6.40%	3.30 /6
02/01/2017 08:00	SK	Imports YoY	Jan	10.10%		7.30%	
02/01/2017 08:00	SK	Trade Balance	Jan	\$5310m		\$7003m	
02/01/2017 08:30	ID	Nikkei Indonesia PMI Mfg	Jan	ψ3310III 		49	
02/01/2017 08:30	JN	Nikkei Japan PMI Mfg	Jan F	 		52.8	
02/01/2017 08:30	SK	Nikkei South Korea PMI Mfg	Jan			49.4	
02/01/2017 09:00	CH	Non-Mfg PMI	Jan			54.5	
02/01/2017 09:00	CH	Mfg PMI	Jan	51.2		51.4	
02/01/2017 09:00	TH	CPI YOY	Jan	1.50%		1.13%	
02/01/2017 10:30	IN		Jan			49.6	
02/01/2017 13:00	JN	Nikkei India PMI Mfg Vehicle Sales YoY		 		10.80%	
	AU		Jan				
02/01/2017 13:30 02/01/2017 13:30		Commodity Index AUD	Jan			116.8	
	AU UK	Commodity Index SDR YoY Nationwide House PX MoM	Jan	0.00%		45.50%	
02/01/2017 15:00 02/01/2017 15:00	UK	Nationwide House Px NSA YoY	Jan	0.00% 4.30%		0.80% 4.50%	-
			Jan	53.3		4.50 / ₀ 53.2	
02/01/2017 16:45	IT ED	Markit/ADACI Italy Mfg PMI	Jan Jan E	53.4			
02/01/2017 16:50	FR	Markit France Mfg PMI Markit/BME Germany Mfg PMI	Jan F			53.4 56.5	
02/01/2017 16:55	GE	, ,	Jan F	56.5			
02/01/2017 17:00	EC	Markit Eurozone Mfg PMI	Jan F	55.1		55.1	-
02/01/2017 17:30	UK	Markit UK PMI Mfg SA	Jan	55.9		56.1	
02/01/2017 20:00	US	MBA Mortgage Applications	Jan-27	4601		4.00%	
02/01/2017 21:15	US	ADP Employment Change	Jan	168k		153k	
02/01/2017 22:30	CA	Markit Canada Mfg PMI	Jan -	 EE 4		51.8	
02/01/2017 22:45	US	Markit US Mfg PMI	Jan F	55.1		55.1	 E4 E
02/01/2017 23:00	US	ISM Manufacturing	Jan	55		54.7	54.5
02/01/2017 23:00	US	ISM Prices Paid	Jan	65.5		65.5	
02/01/2017 23:00	US	Construction Spending MoM	Dec	0.20%		0.90%	
02/01/2017	ID	CPI YoY	Jan	3.20%		3.02%	
Source: Bloomberg							



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