

DAILY UPDATE March 13, 2024

MACROECONOMIC NEWS

UK Economy - British wages excluding bonuses grew at their slowest pace since October 2022 while the unemployment rate edged up unexpectedly, according to data which may slightly ease the Bank of England's inflation worries. Regular wage growth dropped to 6.1% in the three months to January from 6.2% in the final quarter of 2023, the Office for National Statistics said. Economists had expected another reading of 6.2%. However, falling inflation means that in real terms, pay was up by 2.0% compared with a year earlier, the fastest growth since September 2021.

US Economy - Headline U.S. consumer price growth accelerated in February, while the underlying measure was faster than anticipated, in a sign of sticky inflationary pressures that could complicate the timing of potential Federal Reserve interest rate cuts this year. The annualized reading of the closely-watched consumer price index increased by 3.2% last month, quicker than estimates that it would remain at a pace of 3.1% notched in January. The year-on-year core figure, which strips out volatile items like food and fuel, cooled to 3.8% from 3.9%, but was still slightly above projections of 3.7%. Month-on-month, the overall consumer price index rose by 0.4% in February, in line with expectations and faster than the 0.3% uptick in January. The core gauge came in at 0.4%, matching the prior month and marginally hotter than expectations of 0.3%.

CORPORATE NEWS

ISAT - PT Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison is expanding base transceiver station (BTS) construction and mobilizing mobile BTS (MBTS) to boost signal coverage in key areas. This proactive step aims to address the expected 14% increase in national data traffic during Ramadan compared to this year's daily average. Throughout Ramadan, ISAT is optimizing its network in priority locations like worship places, shopping centers, markets, bus terminals, train stations, airports, ports, and major transportation routes such as toll roads and railway lines.

Equity Markets

	Closing	% Change
Dow Jones	39,005	0.61
NASDAQ	16,266	1.54
S&P 500	5,175	1.12
MSCI excl. Jap	663	1.19
Nikkei	38,718	-0.20
Shanghai Comp	3,056	-0.41
Hang Seng	17,094	3.05
STI	3,153	0.37
JCI	7,382	0.11
Indo ETF (IDX)	17	-0.05
Indo ETF (EIDO)	23	-0.04

Currency

	Closing	Last Trade
US\$ - IDR	15,590	15,590
US\$ - Yen	147.68	147.30
Euro - US\$	1.0927	1.09
US\$ - SG\$	1.3323	1.33

Commodities

	Last	Price Chg	%Chg
Oil NYMEX	78.02	-1.4	-1.8
Oil Brent	82.38	-1.0	-1.2
Coal Newcastle	131	-4.8	-3.6
Nickel	18,551	568.0	3.2
Tin	27,520	-87.0	-0.3
Gold	2,159	-0.8	0.0
CPO Rott	975	27.5	2.9
CPO Malay	4,168	86.0	2.1

Indo Gov. Bond Yields

	Last	Yield Chg	%Chg
1 year	6.423	-0.03	-0.51
3 year	6.438	-0.03	-0.39
5 year	6.486	0.00	0.05
10 year	6.615	-0.01	-0.15
15 year	6.798	0.00	-0.03
30 year	6.897	-0.02	-0.23

CORPORATE NEWS

PGEO - PT Pertamina Geothermal Energy has secured an agreement with Geothermal Development Company Kenya Ltd. (GDC) and Africa Geothermal International Ltd. (AGIL) to expedite the development of two geothermal fields in Narok, Kenya, aiming to start this year. They plan to develop the Suswa field with four 50MW geothermal power plants, targeting the commercial operation of the first unit by 2027, with a total capacity goal of 500MW, positioning the Suswa project as a world-class geothermal field. Additionally, they will establish a joint venture to develop other potential areas, such as the Longonot field. PGEO and AGIL have also finalized a 140MW power purchase agreement, with PGEO leading the initial 35MW exploration drilling expected to be completed by 2027.

PTPP - PT Pembangunan Perumahan (Persero) is refocusing on its core business as a construction company this year. They plan to expand into the private sector, targeting both local and foreign markets to balance their project portfolio with government projects. They aim for a 5-10% growth compared to last year's performance. PTPP has allocated IDR 1.5 trillion in 2024 capex to complete its investment in the Semarang-Demak Toll Road, as one of the national strategic projects (PSN). This year's capex will not be used for new investments, as the company aims to strengthen its core business in construction and achieve an IDR 3 trillion divestment target.

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