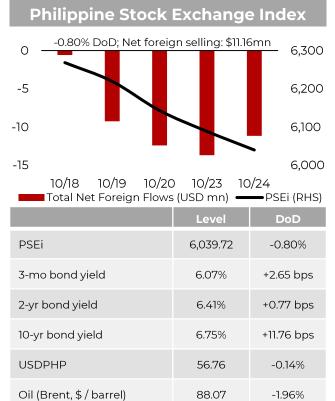
The Morning View

OCTOBER 25, 2023



Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Eli Remolona said that an off-cycle rate hike is "on the table at the moment" if data will show that inflation will significantly rise and there is a risk that the increase will affect inflationary expectations.

Puregold Price Club, Inc. (Ticker: PGOLD) recorded a 2.1% YoY jump in its nine-month consolidated income amid improved store traffic. Same-store sales grew 4.8% and 4.1% in its Puregold stores and S&R warehouse clubs, respectively. However, margins were compressed by the 11.8% YoY increase in operating expenses.

Local equities fell amid cautious sentiment due to the ongoing geopolitical risks. Moreover, BSP Governor Remolona's comments on the likelihood of an off-cycle rate hike also weighed down on market sentiment. The PSEi closed at 6,039.72 (-0.80% DoD).

Local fixed income yields rose following BSP Governor Remolona's hawkish comments on the policy path. The Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) also fully awarded Php30 billion worth of reissued 10-year Treasury bonds. On average, yields rose by 2.02 bps, with the 2Y closing at 6.41% (+0.77 bps) and the 10Y closing at 6.75% (+11.76 bps).

The **Philippine peso** strengthened amid hawkish comments from the BSP Governor as well as the decline in oil prices. The USD/PHP pair closed at 56.76 (-0.14% DoD).

S&P Global US Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 51.0 in October (September: revised 50.2), its highest level since July. The increase was driven by improved new orders in the manufacturing sector and easing inflationary pressures in the services sector.

Hamburg Commercial Bank (HCOB) flash Eurozone Composite PMI further fell to 46.5 in October (September: 47.2), its lowest since November 2020. The services and manufacturing PMIs declined to 47.8 and 43.0 (September: 48.7 and 43.4), respectively.

US equities rose as upbeat company earnings results and improved PMI data boosted investors' sentiment. The S&P 500 closed at 4,247.68 (+0.73% DoD) and the DJIA closed at 33,141.38 (+0.62% DoD).

US Treasury yields were mixed amid concerns on the economic impact of higher borrowing costs and the persisting geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. On average, yields fell by 0.71 bps, with the 2Y closing at 5.12% (+6.40 bps) and the 10Y closing at 4.83% (-2.50 bps).

The **US dollar** strengthened amid dovish comments from European Central Bank President Lagarde. Investors also weighed the upbeat US manufacturing PMI data which pulled out of a five-month contraction in October. The DXY closed at 106.27 (+0.70% DoD).



0.00% 0.20% 0.40% 0.60% 0.80%

	Level	DoD
S&P 500	4,247.68	+0.73%
DJIA	33,141.38	+0.62%
3-mo US Treasury yield	5.45%	-2.10 bps
2-yr US Treasury yield	5.12%	+6.40 bps
10-yr US Treasury yield	4.83%	-2.50 bps
DXY	106.27	+0.70%

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