



ASX

Open	4,882
Close	4,991
Movement (%)	2.23%
Day high	4,882
Day low	4,992
1 yr Return	-10.55%
YTD return	-6.36%

JCI

Open	4,765
Close	4,778
Movement (%)	0.27%
Day high	4,778
Day low	4,735
1 yr Return	-10.17%
YTD return	3.18%

PSE

Open	6,756
Close	6,848
Movement (%)	1.36%
Day high	6,756
Day low	6,748
1 yr Return	-10.83%
YTD return	-1.74%

Global currencies against USD

USD	1
IDR	13,560
EUR	0.90
AUD	1.41
PHP	47.67
GBP	0.70
SGD	1.41

Commodity Prices

Gold	USD/oz	1,226.90
Oil (brent)	USD/bbl	33.89
Oil (WTI)	USD/bbl	30.53
Coal (Indo)	USD/t	50.92
Iron Ore	USD/t	46.78

Market View

US Markets

US stocks end lower after 3 day win streak

Stocks closed lower Thursday to snap a three-day winning streak, while a run-up by telecom and utilities, sectors traditionally viewed as defensive, underscored the nervousness lingering in the market. The S&P 500 index down 8.99 points, or 0.5%, at 1,917.83, spending the day within a 15-point range. The Dow Jones Industrial Average finished down 40.40 points, or 0.3%, at 16,413.43. The Nasdaq Composite closed down 46.53 points, or 1%, at 4,487.54, trading within a 66-point range on the session.

Asian Markets

Asia Markets rise as oil prices edge higher

Markets in Asia rose Thursday, with Australian shares closing at their highest level in over two weeks, as oil prices edged higher and worries about the global financial system abated slightly. The S&P/ASX 200 gained 2.3% to 4,992, Japan's Nikkei Stock Average was up 2.3% at 16,196.80. South Korea's Kospi rallied by 1.3%.

News in Brief

Economy

Indonesia: Central bank sees 2016 GDP growth at 5.4%

Bank Indonesia Deputy Governor Perry Warjiyo said the country's economic growth may reach 5.4% this year, accelerating from 4.8% last year, after the central bank cut its main interest rate 50 basis points in the first two months of 2016. It also cut banks' statutory reserve requirement ratio by 100 basis points to 6.5%. Warjiyo said this would give banks IDR34tn (USD2.53bn) of fresh liquidity, which they can channel into loans. The central bank expects loan growth at the end of this year at 14%, helped with policy loosening, quickening from 2015's loan growth pace of 10.5%.

Indonesia: Government turns to retail investors to raise IDR30tn from sukuk sale

The government will sell sharia-compliant bonds for retail investors over the next two weeks to help plug the state budget deficit and deepen the local bond market. The three-year Islamic bond, or sukuk, would be sold at its face value, starting Friday until March 4, 2016, bearing a coupon of 8.3%. At that rate, the sukuk would yield 80 basis points higher than time-deposit interest guaranteed by the Deposit Insurance Agency (LPS) and 130 bps higher than the benchmark rate set by the central bank. The government seeks to raise between IDR25tn and IDR30tn (USD1.85bn - USD2.22bn) from the sukuk sale. That would help plug the 2016 budget shortfall of IDR273.2tn, equivalent to 2.15% of gross domestic product.

Indonesia: Rupiah gains as bank cuts benchmark rate

Indonesia's rupiah was up 0.4% at 13,445 to one U.S. dollar, after the central bank cut its overnight benchmark rate by 0.25% to 7% late in the afternoon. Earlier this week, the currency reached its strongest level in four months against the U.S. dollar, and on Thursday, had been strengthening slightly ahead of the bank's move.

Philippines raises finance through bond issuances

Philippines has raised USD2bn from the international markets in the lowest rate recorded for a global bond offer. The 25-year global peso bonds were charged 3.7%, the "lowest coupon ever" for such security. It was four times oversubscribed with "approximately" PHP8bn in tenders. Of the total issuance, USD1.5bn total, will be used to retire qualified debts on a simultaneous buyback transaction. The remaining USD500mm will go to government coffers to fund the budget, the Department of Finance said.

Philippines on solid ground for growth

Despite the slowdown in the global economy, the Philippines will likely breeze through the year on the strength of its solid foundation. In the past six years, the Philippines posted an annual average growth of 6.2 percent, the highest since the late '70s. Despite the 5.8% GDP growth last year, the national government forecasts economic growth at between 6.8-7.8%, and a slight cooling next year to 6.6-7.6%. The level of investments has been increasing as a percentage of GDP to between 18-22%, with the bulk of these investments are coming from the domestic business sector.

Tarif talks put renewable energy developments on hold

Renewable energy developments take a backseat in the plans of power developers as the Department of Energy said it would have to wait for the recommendation of the National Renewable Energy Board (NREB) on the feed-in tariff (FIT) scheme and the energy policy mix to determine the direction of the RE sector. Initially, renewable energy companies are entitled to FIT rates for other RE sources under the FIT system: PHP8.53 per kilowatt-hour (kwh) for 200 megawatts (MW) of wind power production; PHP9.68 per kwh for 50 MW of solar power; PHP5.90 per kwh for 250-MW run-of-river hydroelectric power and PHP6.63 per kwh for 250-MW of biomass power.

Corporate

Indonesia: Online Pajak beefs up services to expand taxpayer reach

Achilles Advanced System, the company behind web-based tax reporting app OnlinePajak, will integrate with accounting app Accurate, human resources software Talent, as well as logistics service Etobee, in a move that would make it easier for taxpayers to submit their tax returns, OnlinePajak said in a statement on Thursday (18/02). The agreement will also allow OnlinePajak users to send documents with Etobee, a start-up logistic service that is now delivering in Jakarta; Bandung, West Java; Surabaya; East Java; Yogyakarta; and Semarang, Central Java.

Indonesia: Indosat snaps up google chromecast and chromebook to entice home subscribers

Indosat Ooredoo, the country's second-largest telecommunications company by subscriber numbers, has partnered with Internet giant Google in its latest home Internet service, GIG, in a continued attempt to cater to the country's growing young and tech-savvy population. With the partnership, subscribers of Indosat's GIG home Internet service will receive several extras from Google, including its streaming device Chromecast, a Chromebook laptop as well as up to 50 gigabytes of storage in Google Drive. The partnership also marks the first time that Google will offer Chromecast and Chromebook commercially in Indonesia, according to Veronica Utami, head of marketing at Google Indonesia.

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