

Friday May 4, 2012

Stock Markets Rap (as of May 3)

	Close	Chg	(%)
MSCI World	1,284	-7	-0.5
Dow	13,207	-62	-0.5
Nasdaq	3,024	-36	-1.2
S&P 500	1,392	-11	-0.8
Euro Stoxx	2,287	-3	-0.1
FTSE 100	5,767	+8	+0.1
DAX	6,694	-16	-0.2
CAC	3,223	-3	-0.1
ASX 200	4,429	-7	-0.2
Nikkei	9,380	-	-
Shanghai	2,440	+2	+0.1
Hang Seng	21,250	-60	-0.3
H Shares	10,987	-159	-1.4

	Close	Chg	(%)
FTSE ASEAN	583	-0	-0.0
Singapore	3,001	-5	-0.2
Thailand	1,240	+1	+0.1
Malaysia	1,583	+1	+0.0
Indonesia	4,224	+5	+0.1
Philippines	5,300	+72	+1.4
Vietnam	469	-4	-0.8
Lao PDR	1,031	+8	+0.8
Cambodia	780	-38	-4.6

Currencies Rap (as of May 3)

	Last	Chg	(%)
DX	79.22	+0.09	+0.11
USD/EUR	1.3134	-0.00	-0.01
JPY/USD	80.36	+0.07	+0.09
THB/USD	30.92	+0.04	+0.13
VND/USD	20,858	+3.00	+0.01
LAK/USD	7,998.00	+6.00	+0.08
KHR/USD	4,025.00	0.00	0.00
MMK/USD	823.88	-0.25	-0.03
VND/THB	671.46	-4.33	-0.64
LAK/THB	258.63	-0.22	-0.09
KHR/THB	130.00	-1.00	-0.76
MMK/THB	26.64	-0.05	-0.19

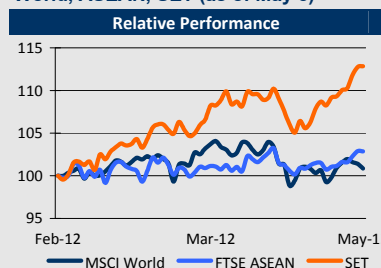
Commodities Rap (as of May 3)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Gold	1,634.80	-19.20	-1.16
Silver	30.01	-0.63	-2.07
Copper	373.60	-5.10	-1.35
WTI	102.54	-2.68	-2.55
Brent	116.08	-2.12	-1.79
BDI	1,157	+8	+0.70

Source: Bloomberg

*Nikkei 225 Index as of May 2

World, ASEAN, SET (as of May 3)



Source: Bloomberg

INDOCHINA NEWS

- Myanmar - Myanmar Raises Doubts on Italian-Thai's Deep-Sea Port Plans
- Indonesia - Indonesia Ban on Unprocessed-Metal Exports Effective May 6
- Lao PDR - Sepon Mine Boosts Gold Output of Minmetals Resources
- Lao PDR - Chinese Investors Rank as Biggest Foreign Group in Lao Stock Market: LSX CEO
- Lao PDR - Laos: No Work on Xayaburi Dam until Green Concerns Solved
- Cambodia - Cambodia's Internet Penetration More than Doubles in 2011
- Cambodia - Trade With Vietnam Climbs
- Vietnam - Gold Custody Services Expanded as Gold Depositing Banned

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INDOCHINA NEWS

Myanmar - Myanmar Raises Doubts on Italian-Thai's Deep-Sea Port Plans

Myanmar President Thein Sein's top political adviser questioned Italian-Thai Development Pcl (ITD)'s ability to oversee a planned \$8.6 billion industrial zone in the country, raising doubts about the Dawei project's viability. Executives at Thailand's biggest construction company "haven't much experience in developing such a very big special economic zone," presidential adviser Ko Ko Hlaing said yesterday in an interview in Yangon. "We need other big investors." Thein Sein pitched both Dawei, 300 kilometers (186 miles) west of Bangkok, and Thilawa, a port 25 kilometers south of Yangon, to Japanese investors during meetings in Tokyo last month, he said. The trip ended with an agreement for Japan to study Thilawa's potential. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

Indonesia - Indonesia Ban on Unprocessed-Metal Exports Effective May 6

Indonesia will ban exports of 14 raw minerals effective May 6, with an exception for miners that plan to build local processing facilities. Those miners will be assessed an average tax of 20% on ore shipments. The regulation applies to copper, lead, nickel, gold, silver, zinc, chromium, bauxite, manganese, molybdenum, platinum, antimony, iron ore and sand iron, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Jero Wacik said at a press briefing in Jakarta Thursday. The largest nickel-ore and bauxite supplier to China announced the prohibition in February, two years ahead of schedule. The new rules apply to holders of mining business licenses issued after 2009. Companies with a so-called contract of work, including Phoenix-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. and Newmont Mining Corp., will be allowed to ship ores until 2014. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

Lao PDR - Sepon Mine Boosts Gold Output of Minmetals Resources

The Sepon gold and copper mine in the central province of Savannakhet is helping boost the output of flourishing Minmetals Resources. The Hong Kong-based precious metal trading company, which owns the Sepon gold and copper mine, announced this week that its gold production climbed 62% in the first quarter thanks to high-grade ore from its Sepon mine. Production of the precious metal mined by the Chinese company increased to 34,082 ounces from 21,039 ounces a year earlier, while copper cathode output rose 21% to 22,246 tonnes from a year earlier, a company report stated. The Lao government is eyeing US\$1 billion in mining exports this year, with most to be contributed by the Phu Bia and Sepon mines. [\[Vientiane Times\]](#)

Lao PDR - Chinese Investors Rank as Biggest Foreign Group in Lao Stock Market: LSX CEO

Chinese investors were the biggest foreign group in the Lao stock market, Lao Security Exchange (LSX) Chairman and CEO Dethphouvang Moularat said. Moularat indicated that Thai investors might soon overtake the Chinese. "We have more than 8,000 accounts. For Lao accounts, we have around 50%. For accounts for other countries, China is the first, Thailand is the second. But maybe Thailand will become the first in the future." Lao stock market is expected to introduce an online trading system by the end of the year. "For the near future, I think we will have two or three (new) listed companies like the Enterprise of Telecommunications Lao (ETL), Indochina Group," he said. [\[Xinhua\]](#)

Lao PDR - Laos: No Work on Xayaburi Dam until Green Concerns Solved

Laos said yesterday it would not make a final decision on construction of the Xayaburi dam in the main stream body of the Mekong River before approval by the international community and countries in the Lower Mekong basin over environment concerns. Work on the site by the Thai construction company Ch Karnchang was just preparation, mostly in the primary and exploration stage, said Lao Vice Minister of Energy and Mines Viraphonh Viravong. [\[The Nation\]](#)

Cambodia - Cambodia's Internet Penetration More than Doubles in 2011

Cambodia's internet penetration more than doubled to 3.1% of the population in 2011, up from 1.3% a year earlier, according to the Internet World Stats website. The country had 449,160 internet users at the end of last year and 491,480 Facebook users at the end of March. Among ASEAN countries, Brunei has the highest internet penetration of 79.4% (318,000 users) followed by Singapore with 77.2% (3.6 million). Penetration is 61% in Malaysia (17.7 million users), 34% in Vietnam (30.8 million), 33% in the Philippines (33.6 million), 27% in Thailand (18.3 million), 22% in Indonesia (55 million), 8% in Laos (527,000) and only 0.2% in Myanmar. [\[Cambodia Herald\]](#)

Cambodia - Trade With Vietnam Climbs

Export to Vietnam climbed more than 57% year on year in 1Q12 as farmers looked for alternative destinations for products that went to Thailand last year. The primarily agricultural exports to Cambodia's eastern neighbor were worth US\$201.5 million, up from \$127.7 million between January and March last year, data from the Vietnam Trade Office showed. A shrinkage in orders from Thailand this year had sent the Kingdom's farmers looking for new markets, many of which were found in Vietnam. Thai restrictions on Cambodian products such as cassava were also reported this year. Industry insiders in Banteay Meanchey province said earlier this year half the province's cassava had gone unharvested after Thai authorities imposed a ban on the crop, the Post reported in January. [\[Phnom Penh Post\]](#)

Vietnam - Gold Custody Services Expanded as Gold Depositing Banned

Many local commercial banks have switched from mobilizing gold to safeguarding gold for customers as the ban on gold depositing and lending started to take effect on Tuesday. With the form of "safe-keeping of gold" or "safe-keeping of assets", the banks mobilize gold for long-term deposits, mainly 12, 15 and 18-month terms. Customers will still be entitled to interest rates with the monthly interest payment. The interest rate in banks is also different, ranging from 2 to 3%. Particularly, some banks raised interest rates up to 4.6%, the highest for the 18-month period. [\[Tuoihnews\]](#)