

Friday March 9, 2012

Stock Markets Rap (as of Mar 8)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Dow	12,908	+71	+0.6
Nasdaq	2,970	+35	+1.2
S&P 500	1,366	+13	+1.0
VIX	17.95	-1.12	-5.9
MSCI World	1,290	+20	+1.5

	Close	Chg	(%)
FTSE 100	5,860	+68	+1.2
DAX	6,835	+163	+2.4
CAC	3,478	+86	+2.5
Euro Stoxx	2,514	+51	+2.1

	Close	Chg	(%)
ASX 200	4,171	+27	+0.7
Nikkei	9,769	+193	+2.0
Shanghai	2,420	+25	+1.1
HSI	20,901	+273	+1.3
H Shares	11,169	+192	+1.7

	Close	Chg	(%)
STI	2,970	+57	+2.0
Malaysia	1,578	+4	+0.2
PSEi	4,956	+35	+0.7
SET	1,168	+15	+1.3
LSX	936	0	0.0
Vietnam	432	-12	-2.8
Indonesia	3,968	+25	+0.6
FTSE ASEAN	573	+9	+1.5

Currencies Rap (as of Mar 8)

	Last	Chg	(%)
DX	79.14	-0.57	-0.72
THB/USD	30.57	-0.15	-0.49
LAK/THB	261.74	+1.28	+0.49
LAK/USD	8,001.50	+3.50	+0.04
USD/EUR	1.3263	+0.01	+0.91
JPY/USD	81.52	+0.50	+0.62

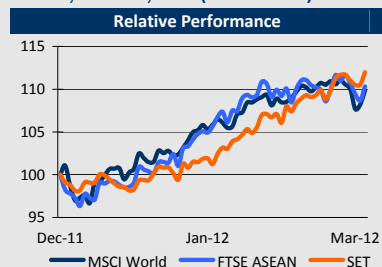
Commodities Rap (as of Mar 8)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Gold	1,698.70	+14.80	+0.88
Silver	33.83	+0.25	+0.73
Copper	379.15	+2.45	+0.65
WTI	106.58	+0.42	+0.40
Brent	125.44	+1.32	+1.06
BDI	812	+14	+1.75

Source: Bloomberg

* LSX as of Mar 7

World, ASEAN, SET (as of Mar 8)



Source: Bloomberg

INDOCHINA NEWS

- ASEAN - Asean Ministers to Discuss 'Asean Bank' Network
- Indonesia - Indonesia Holds Interest Rate as Inflation Risk from Oil Price Increases
- Lao PDR - Petrol Prices Up
- Thailand - Inflation Could Surge 8% if Military Conflict in ME Erupts
- Vietnam - Vietnam Index Drops, More Falls Expected
- Malaysia - AirAsia Plans to List Thai Unit in Second Quarter
- Cambodia - The Kingdom's First IPO
- Cambodia - Riel Sees Stable Gains on Dollar This Year

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INDOCHINA NEWS

ASEAN - Asean Ministers to Discuss 'Asean Bank' Network

An "Asean bank" system will be discussed on the sidelines of the Asean summit in Cambodia on March 26. The idea is to make it easier for member banks to set up subsidiaries and operate throughout the region. The move fits in with the plan to integrate the region's financial markets in line with the Asean goal to create an economic community by 2015, according to The Mainichi Daily News. Central bank governors are expected to discuss the idea at meetings on the sidelines of the Asean finance ministers meeting in Phnom Penh. "If accepted, a bank can have a license automatically from the 10-member countries," said the official. "The ultimate goal is to promote financial market integration, one of the core ideas of the Asean Economic Community." So far only three banks – from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand – are believed to meet the anticipated standards. [\[Mizzima\]](#)

Indonesia - Indonesia Holds Interest Rate as Inflation Risk from Oil Price Increases

Indonesia's central bank held interest rates to support growth as a government plan to raise fuel prices and electricity tariffs revives inflation risk. Governor Darmin Nasution and his board kept the reference rate at 5.75%, Bank Indonesia said. The decision was predicted by 15 of 16 economists in a Bloomberg News survey, with one calling for a cut of a quarter of a percentage point. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

Lao PDR - Petrol Prices Up

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce announced a rise in premium and regular petrol prices in Vientiane and five provinces. The price of petrol in Vientiane has increased by between 20 kip and 210 kip per litre, and in the provinces of Khammuan, Savannakhet, Champassak, Bokeo and Xieng Khuang by between 10 kip and 220 kip per litre, according to the ministry's Price Planning and Marketing Division. In Vientiane, petrol stations are now selling premium petrol for 12,230 kip per litre and regular petrol for 11,000 kip per litre, while diesel stays at 9,910 kip per litre. [\[Vientiane Times\]](#)

Thailand - Inflation Could Surge 8% if Military Conflict in ME Erupts

Thailand's inflation could spike by 8% in 2012, should oil prices spike to above US\$200 (Bt6,000) to \$250 per barrel if there is a military confrontation in the Middle East and bring this year's average to \$195, said Kasikorn Research Centre. The situation is based on the worst-case scenario that the conflict in the Middle East is prolonged until the end of this year. Tensions are growing of supply disruptions and a possible military confrontation in the Middle East as Iran threatens to halt oil exports through the Strait of Hormuz in retaliation to sanctions by the EU and the US. If the situation worsens, the world may face yet another oil crisis reminiscent of the 1970s and 80s. [\[The Nation\]](#)

Vietnam - Vietnam Index Drops, More Falls Expected

The Ho Chi Minh Stock Exchange's VN Index closed down 2.78% at 431.66 points on Thursday. "Stocks could fall further by 5-10% from today due to selling pressure following an increase in fuel prices and a considerable rally." "The (fuel price) hike also stoked fears about rising inflationary pressure." [\[Reuters\]](#)

Malaysia - AirAsia Plans to List Thai Unit in Second Quarter

Malaysia-based AirAsia, Asia's biggest budget air carrier, hopes to raise up to \$200 million by listing its Thai unit by the second quarter of this year, a company official said Thursday. "We hope to raise up to \$200 million through the IPO. It will be used for expansion and the purchase of aircraft," said Aireen Omar, AirAsia's head of corporate finance. "We hope to list in the second quarter of this year." She said an application to list 750 million shares on the Thai bourse had been submitted to authorities in Thailand last month. [\[AFP\]](#)

Cambodia - The Kingdom's First IPO

The long awaited first security listing on the Cambodian Securities Exchange became a reality on February 23 with the Security Exchange Commission of Cambodia's "in principle" approval of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority's (PPWSA) "disclosure document for public issuance of equity securities". TongYang Securities (Cambodia) Plc, an overseas affiliate of South Korea's TongYang Securities Inc, will act as sole underwriter, book runner and lead manager. PPWSA intends to issue 13.04 million ordinary shares with a par value of 1,000 riels. This represents a 15% float. For PPWSA offering, this began on February 29 and ends March 13. Interested investors must submit a book building form. A 10% deposit is required based on the total equity value of securities that prospective investor has bid for. The indicative offering price is US\$1.00 to \$1.57. The final offering price will be determined by the underwriter and issuer, using the weighted average method based on the price and the quantity of securities that investors have selected and indicated in the book building form. [\[Phnom Penh Post\]](#)

Cambodia - Riel Sees Stable Gains on Dollar This Year

A steady rise in the value of Cambodia's riel since the beginning of the year demonstrated increased confidence in the currency often shadowed by predominant usage of the US dollar, officials said yesterday. The riel has strengthened 1% against the dollar since early January, according to a commodity price report from the Ministry of Commerce. The currency traded at 4,013 riel per dollar yesterday, up from 4,057 riel at the beginning of the year, the report showed. "The consequent rising value of riel proves there is more confidence in local currency, and it can help to strengthen the usage of the riel," said Ngoun Sokha, director general and spokeswoman of the National Bank of Cambodia. National holidays and the rice harvest season – which inflate the riel every year at this time – have also contributed to the currency's slight gain, she said, although demand for the riel this year has been greater than last year. [\[Phnom Penh Post\]](#)