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MAIN UPDATES

ZAR: South Africa's rand rallied on Thursday after the country's central bank cut its main lending rate by 50 basis points, while stocks fell on concerns over the long-term impact of the new coronavirus and simmering U.S.-China tensions. At 1653 GMT, the rand ZAR=D3 was 1.57% firmer at 17.6450 per U.S. dollar after hitting 17.5100, its best level in more than a month. The central bank cut its main lending rate by 50 basis points to 3.75% on Thursday in an effort to shield the economy from the impact of the virus. Rate cuts this year now total 275 basis points.

EUR: On Tuesday the 19th of May, trading on the euro closed 7 pips up against the dollar at 1.0922. The euro dropped from a high of 1.0976. The growth was snuffed out after hitting fresh lows on the back of European data and a rise in stock indices. Remember that the euro got a boost on the 18th of May following an announcement that France and Germany plan to create a 500bn EUR coronavirus fund that will help to alleviate the devastation caused by the pandemic.

GBP: The GBP/USD pair extended its sideways consolidative price action and remained confined in a narrow trading band post-UK macro data. The pair continued showing some resilience below the 1.2200 mark, albeit struggled to gain any meaningful traction amid reviving safe-haven demand for the US dollar. Worsening US-China relations and fears about the second wave of coronavirus infections overshadowed the recent optimism over the re-opening of economies globally.

INR: Indian rupee weakened against the US dollar on Friday, tracking negative cues from Asian currencies amid escalating Sino-US tensions over Beijing's plan to impose a national security law on Hong Kong. Moreover, rising corona virus cases in the country too weighed on the domestic unit. The death toll in India due to corona virus rose to 3,583 and the number of cases climbed to over 1.18 lakh, while the number of cases around the world has crossed over 51.02 lakh with death toll topped at 3.32 lakh. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) sold equity shares worth Rs 258.73 crore on Thursday, exchange data showed. Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the policy repo rate by 40 basis points to 4% to help businesses and public avail cheap loan by banks.

MZN: The foreign exchange market is extremely short, the demand for foreign currency has been increasing daily. On April 28th, the exchange rate was fixed at USD / MZN 68,79, the rate of ZAR / MZN 3,84 and EUR / MZN 75,48.

HIGHLIGHTS

ALUMINIUM: Aluminum decreased 283.50 USD/Tonne or 15.71% since the beginning of 2020, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity.

BRENT CRUDE: Brent crude held above \$36 a barrel on Friday and was on course for another week of gains as additional production cuts by major producers and a decline in US oil inventories eased oversupply concerns. Supporting prices further were hopes of a recovery in fuel demand as countries continue to lift lockdown restrictions.

COAL: Coal has been trading around \$55 per tonne in May, as energy consumption has fallen following global lockdowns measures to control the spread of the coronavirus. The IEA said global electricity demand is set to decline by 5% in 2020, the largest drop since the Great Depression. On top of that, many utilities have cut back on coal first, because it is more expensive than gas or renewables. The coronavirus outbreak pushed coal producers into their darkest crisis ever, because the crisis has proved renewable energy is cheaper for consumers and a safer bet for investors.

COTTON: Cotton jumped above \$5.9 a bushel for the first time since March, on hopes for improved demand as economies started to ease coronavirus-led restrictions. On the supply side, unfavourable weather conditions across key growing areas in the US posed a threat to crops.

CORN: Corn decreased 68.50 USD/BU or 17.69% since the beginning of 2020, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity.

GOLD: Gold gained some ground in the Asian trading session on Friday, rebounding from a one-week low touched in the previous session following fresh tensions between the US and China. President Donald Trump said the White House would react strongly if China forces national security laws for Hong Kong. The world's largest economy has been criticizing Beijing's handling of the coronavirus outbreak.

CURRENCIES

Ccy	Bid	Ask	Average
USD / MZN	68.20	69.56	68.88
ZAR / MZN	3.87	3.93	3.900
EUR / MZN	74.55	76.03	75.290
GBP / MZN	83.31	84.99	84.150
INR / MZN	0.9009	0.9191	0.910
USD / ZAR	17.6400	17.6408	17.640
EUR / USD	1.0929	1.0931	1.0930
GBP / USD	1.2214	1.2216	1.2215
USD / INR	75.7750	75.7770	75.7760

COMMODITIES

	Actual	Close
Aluminium	1,521.00	1,512.50
Brent Crude	34.22	36.25
Coal Rchd Bay	53.14	53.14
Coal Maputo	53.82	53.82
Cotton	57.39	59.94
Maize/Corn	316.50	318.50
Rice	16.0000	16.0800
Soy	830.50	843.75
Wheat	509.50	517.00
Gold	1,735.20	1,736.95

Companies	28/04/2020	Volum	Amount
CDM	110.00	220.00	24,200.00
Emose	20.00	20.00	400.00
HCB	3.50	-	-
CMH	2,500.00	63.00	157,500.00

Description	Actual	Previous
TB 91 days	10.00%	10.04%
TB 182 days	10.52%	10.58%
TB 364 days	10.60%	10.69%
Prime MZN	18.40%	18.00%
Inflation	3.09%	3.55%
FPC	14.25%	15.75%
FPD	8.25%	9.75%
MIMO	11.25%	12.75%

Securities Custody Operations	
Buying and selling Securities	From 0,4/1000 to 2,00/1000
BVM Expenses	From 50,00 MZN to 2,00/1000
Custody	0,25% p.a. (charged quarterly)
Buying and Selling Securities Over the Exchange	Minimum 100 MZN to 4,00/1000
Financial Flow Settlement Process	Minimum 100 MZN to 2,00/1000

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Source Reuters

CONTACT: Colero Homo 84 312 4551; Manuel Alfai 84 312 7962; Cidália Muquingue 84 243 7070; Hassane Issufo 84 305 8874

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