

Treasury & Markets

News Headlines

- Dollar on defensive after Fed minutes dampen rate hike prospects.
- Euro zone Q2 annual growth estimate upgraded.
- Japan's exports rise in July, underpin strengthening economy.
- Gold edges up on softer dollar, palladium at 16-year peak.
- Oil edges up on decline in crude stocks, but high production caps gains.

CDS

Qatar	Bahrain	KSA	AD	Dubai	Egypt	Lebanon	Tunisia	Morocco
94	233	92	56	120	344	382	403	134

GCC and MENA news

- The Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) has made it clear that it has no plans to liquidate its assets around the world and added the QIA will soon announce major new international investments, Lusail daily reported.
- The consumer confidence index on the economic performance of Qatar rose nearly 0.1 points during the second half of 2017, compared to the first quarter of the same year.
- Saudi Aramco has received bids from international engineering firms to expand the Hawiyah gas plant, industry sources said on Wednesday. Aramco plans to expand the processing capacity at Hawiyah by 1.3 billion standard cubic feet per day (scfd).
- The total value of monetary deposits at the UAE Central Bank amounted to Dh123 billion (\$33.5 billion) during the first half (H1) of the year, Dh122.95 billion of which are in banknotes and Dh50 million in coins, a report said. On a month-over-month basis, the deposits increased by 20.5 per cent
- Oman's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is currently evaluating a raft of proposals for developing major aquaculture ventures in the Sultanate. The projects, entailing investments totalling in excess of \$2 billion, promise to ignite the growth of a strong economic sector centering on fish and shrimp farming, according to a senior Ministry official.

Markets

Currencies	U.S. Closing	Base Metals	\$ LIBOR		
EUR	1.1777	Aluminum	\$2,075	O/N	1.1789
GBP	1.2904	Lead	\$2,394	1 Mth	1.22833
CAD	1.2611	Nickel	\$10,540	2 Mth	1.26278
CHF	0.9642	Tin	\$20,075	3 Mth	1.31667
JPY	109.9	Zinc	\$3,009	6 Mth	1.45944
AUD	0.7935	Copper	\$6,432	1 Yr	1.73622
US Treasuries		Commodities	Precious		
U.S. 2 TSY	1.3343%	Brent IPE	\$50.53	Gold	1286.86
U.S. 3 TSY	1.4920%	NYMEX WTI	\$46.93	Silver	17.1
U.S. 5 TSY	1.7905%	Cash Dubai	\$48.69	Platinum	976.9
U.S. 10 TSY	2.2342%	Nat Gas NYMEX	\$2.877	Palladium	922.8
U.S. 30 TSY	2.8151%				

Global News

- The U.S. dollar was on the defensive on Thursday after the minutes from the Federal Reserve's last policy meeting showed policymakers were increasingly wary of recent softness in inflation and could delay a rate hike.
- The economy in the 19 countries sharing the euro currency expanded by more than previously forecast in the second quarter compared to the same quarter in 2016, the European Union's statistics office Eurostat said on Wednesday.
- Japan's exports rose for an eighth straight month in July on robust shipments to the United States and a boost from a weak yen, a sign overseas demand rebounded from a lull in the previous quarter to underpin a steady economic recovery.
- Gold rose on Thursday as the dollar remained subdued after minutes from the U.S. Federal Reserve's July meeting hinted at a delay in further rate hikes, while palladium hit a fresh 16-year high.
- Oil prices edged up early on Thursday, clawing back some ground after losses in the previous session. Traders said the market was range-bound as falling crude inventories provided price support while high output was capping gains.