

MARKETS DIVERGE BEFORE US RATES OUTCOME

LONDON: European stock markets rose yesterday and the dollar mostly firmed against rivals after drops for Asian equity indices and a record-high close on Wall Street, as traders awaited the outcome of the Federal Reserve's interest-rate meeting. The US central bank is all but certain to raise interest rates, leaving the main focus on chair Janet Yellen's comments.

Some analysts suggest the rise could be the Fed's last this year as traders fret over tepid US inflation and the future of President Donald Trump's big-spending, tax-cutting agenda. Hopes for those policies had fuelled expectations of a surge in prices-and a jump

in borrowing costs-but the agenda is now in trouble as the tycoon faces political crises.

"With the rate hike now 96 percent priced in, focus will fall on the Fed's forward guidance and importantly their views surrounding low inflation," said Stephen Innes, senior trader at Oanda trading group. In Europe yesterday, a closely-watched survey showed that confidence among German investors fell back in June-breaking a run of euphoric mood indicators in recent months.

The ZEW institute's poll measuring economic expectations among financial players shed 2.0 points to 18.6 points in June-well

below its long-term average of 23.9. Despite the June drop, "prospects for the German economy remain favourable, not least thanks to the positive development of economic growth in the European Union in the first quarter of this year", ZEW president Achim Wambach said in a statement. In Britain meanwhile, official data showed that the unemployment rate remains at 4.6 percent, the lowest level for 42 years. At the same time however, average weekly earnings are falling against a backdrop of rising UK inflation caused in large part by a weak pound lifting import costs.

"There was more bad news for the UK consumer yesterday after regular wage growth, excluding bonuses, fell to 1.7 percent, its lowest level since late 2014," said Kathleen Brooks, research director at traders City Index.

"Falling real wage growth is not a new theme, but the fact that inflation-adjusted wage growth has continued to fall to its lowest level for three years, is likely to keep a lid on" a recovery for sterling, which has fallen sharply for much of the time since Britain last year voted to exit the European Union. Elsewhere yesterday, oil prices rose before the release of US energy inventory numbers that provide clues regarding crude demand in the world's biggest economy.

Watchdog the International Energy Agency said yesterday that global oil output will expand faster than worldwide demand next year, primarily as US producers rack up crude production, and that could hamper exporters' efforts to prop up prices. The IEA's assessment came a day after OPEC complained that increased output in the US was slowing efforts to rebalance supply and demand in the oil market.

Asia markets mostly down

Meanwhile, Asian traders were subdued yesterday despite a record close on Wall Street as they await the outcome of the Federal Reserve's policy meeting, hoping for guidance on its monetary policy plans. The central bank is all but certain to raise interest rates after its meet-

ing ends later in the day but the main focus will be on chair Janet Yellen's comments afterwards. Some analysts suggest the rise could be the Fed's last this year as traders fret over tepid inflation and the future of Donald Trump's big-spending, tax-cutting agenda. Hopes for those policies had fuelled expectations of a surge in prices-and a jump in borrowing costs-but the agenda is now in trouble as the tycoon faces political crises.

"With the rate hike now 96 percent priced in, focus will fall on the Fed's forward guidance and importantly their views surrounding low inflation," Stephen Innes, senior trader at OANDA, said in a note. The dollar moved in a tight range against the yen in Asia ahead of the Fed announcement. Equity markets struggled despite a strong lead from Wall Street, where the Dow and S&P 500 ended at record highs.

Tokyo ended 0.1 percent lower, while Shanghai closed down 0.7 percent with dealers unimpressed by Chinese factory output data. Chinese Insurance firms were among the big losers after the chairman of sector giant Anbang Insurance, which had sought a business deal with the family of US President Donald Trump's son-in-law, stepped aside amid a report he had been detained by authorities. Seoul was off 0.1 percent and Singapore gave up 0.2 percent. Taipei fell 0.6 percent. However, Sydney climbed more than one percent and Hong Kong staged a late bounce to end up 0.1 percent. — Agencies

Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report									
Wednesday 14 June 2017									
Index	Change	Closing	Last Closing						
Price Index	▲ 2.72	6,779.44	6,776.72						
Weighted Index	▲ 0.43	398.53	398.10						
KSX 15	▲ 2.09	898.40	896.77						

Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change		
MARIN	85	84	50539	4,246	3	85	▼ -5.0		
IPG	349	310	30,198	10,427	4	349	▲ 4.0		
NAFESCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,307	— 0.0		
ENERGYH	40.0	40.0	1,000	40	1	40.0	▲ 3.0		
GPI	36.8	36.4	241,701	8,834	20	36.8	▲ 0.5		
ABAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	87	— 0.0		
Oil & Gas			323,438	23,547	28	1038.97	▲ 0.18		
KFOUC	280	280	2,000	560	1	280	▼ -10.8		
BPCO	582	580	59,000	34,238	3	582	— 0.0		
ALKOUT	590	590	76,481	45,124	1	590	▼ -100.0		
ALQURAIN	335	334	58,295	19,511	7	335	▼ -2.0		
Basic Materials			195,778	99,433	12	1243.04	▼ -56.40		
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	467	— 0.0		
CABLE	415	425	5,605	2,275	3	415	▲ 10.0		
SHP	214	207	90,823	19,079	7	207	▼ -7.0		
PCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	960	— 0.0		
PAPER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	270	— 0.0		
MRC	90	90	30	3	1	90	— 0.0		
ACICO	256	256	3,511	899	1	256	▲ 5.0		
HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	208	— 0.0		
KBMAC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	136	— 0.0		
NICBM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	— 0.0		
EQUIPMENT	51	47.4	140	7	3	51	▲ 1.9		
NGCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	108	— 0.0		
GYPSSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	95	— 0.0		
SALBOOKH	57	57	118,800	6,770	5	57	▼ -1.2		
AGLYT	728	721	1,272,136	923,250	102	727	▲ 5.0		
EDU	368	351	43,000	15,344	15	356	▼ -9.0		
CLEANING	45.0	43.3	152,000	6,619	6	43.3	▼ -2.7		
KGL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	80	— 0.0		
KPCP	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	160	— 0.0		
HUMANSOFT	3,900	3,899	130,786	509,968	51	3,900	▲ 1.0		
NAFAIS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	150	— 0.0		
GFC	82	89	73,215	4,385	41	80	▲ 2.3		
MAYADEEN	27.0	27.0	52,000	1,404	2	27.0	▼ -0.7		
GGC	598	590	34,563	14,636	5	598	▲ 8.0		
MTCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	56	— 0.0		
UPAC	740	740	989	739	1	740	— 0.0		
ALAFCO	322	318	644,500	206,185	45	320	▲ 2.0		
MUBARRAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	78	— 0.0		
LOGISTICS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	51	— 0.0		
SCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	83	— 0.0		
GCEM	76	76	1,000	76	1	76	▲ 1.0		
QIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	78	— 0.0		
FCEM	84	84	20,000	1,670	1	84	▲ 5.0		
RKWC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	— 0.0		
SPEC	90	84	1,400	118	3	84	▼ -5.0		
Industrials			2,634,388	1,713,427	293	1793.81	▼ -2.28		
PAFPCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	110	— 0.0		
CATL	220	220	19,558	4,303	3	220	▼ -8.0		
DANAH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	77	— 0.0		
FOOD	2,500	2,460	5,030	12,574	3	2,460	▼ -40.0		
Consumer Goods			24,588	16,877	6	1098.27	▼ -13.00		
MHC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	378	— 0.0		
ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,100	— 0.0		
YACCO	182	180	28,011	5,127	7	185	▼ -7		
Health Care			28,011	5,127	7	1472.54	▼ -7.19		
KCIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,290	— 0		
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	250	— 0		
SULTAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	87	— 0		
CABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.5	— 0		
EYAS	1,400	1,300	4,000	5,420	8	1,400	▲ 100		
IFAHF	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	192	— 0		
OULAFUEL	122	118	149,914	18,281	5	119	— 0		
MUNTAZAHAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	82	— 0		
JAZEERA	470	458	493,199	228,892	73	470	▲ 12		
SOOR	117	117	471	55	1	117	— 0		
FUTUREXO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	106	— 0		
ALRAI	119	114	25	3	3	119	— 0		
ZMAH	51	51	90,800	5,054	4	51	▼ -1		
Mazzan	950	949	1,012	961	2	950	— 0		
Consumer Services			748,421	258,675	96	1198.05	▲ 36.00		
ZAIN	412	409	778,806	319,430	40	411	▲ 2		
OOREDOO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,200	— 0		
HITSTELEC	42.1	40.6	1,171,080	48,361	31	40.7	▼ 9		
VIVA	860	822	67,826	56,683	41	859	▲ 36		
Telecommunications			2,017,312	424,473	112	811.00	▲ 11.80		
NBK	668	665	170,198	113,504	20	668	▲ 1		
GBK	244	238	519,620	125,290	14	238	— 0		
CBK	313	313	100	31	1	313	▲ 1		
ARBK	340	319	10,852	3,474	3	340	▼ -5		
ALMUTAHED	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	443	— 0		
KIB	249	248	355,516	88,296	4	249	▲ 4		
BURIG	330	320	481,249	157,816	17	330	▲ 10		
KFIN	482	480	1,379,825	654,325	50	481	— 0		
BOUBYAN	410	407	250,272	102,471	20	407	▼ -2		
AUB	210	208	867,856	180,634	29	208	▼ -1		
ITHMR	43.8	43.3	889,890	38,707	30	43.8	▲ 0		
WARISBANK	243	242	103,839	25,196	37	243	— 0		
Banks			8,029,217	1,499,743	231	915.96	▲ 2.90		
KINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	262	— 0		
GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	500	— 0.0		
AINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	495	— 0.0		
WINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	86	— 0.0		
KUWAITRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	196	— 0.0		
FTI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	60	— 0.0		
WETHAQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	57	— 0.0		
BKQWT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	355	— 0.0		
Insurance			0	0	0	0.00	— 0.00		

Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change
SOKOUK	47.5	46.5	712800	33,215	24	46.6	▼ -0.4
KRE	55	54	2,866,573	155,008	37	55	▼ -1.2
URC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	85	— 0.0
NRE	110	107	792,202	85,796	32	109	▲ 1.0
SRE	375	375	20,000	7,500	1	375	▼ -5.0
TAM	300	345	10,100	3,486	2	360	— 0.0
AREEC	165	165	400	66	1	165	— 0.0
MASSALEH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	38.8	— 0.0
ARABREC	32.4	31.7	210,015	6,869	4	32.4	▲ 0.1
ERESCO	37.5	37.0	503,001	18,655	13	37.3	▼ -1.0
MABANEE	777	772	104,081	80,659	25	775	▲ 3.0
INJAZZAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	92	— 0.0
INVESTORS	23.0	22.5	842,232	19,166	24	22.6	▼ -1.1
IRC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	33.9	— 0.0
ALTUJARA	73	72	540,000	39,067	8	72	▼ -1.8
SANAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	50	— 0.0
AAYANRE	84	83	235,055	19,593	10	84	