TUESDAY • JUNE 14, 2022 • www.bworldonline.com PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JUNE 13, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/2; article on S1/6)

ALI P30.050 SM BPI P92.650 **GLO** P37.200 P200.000 P806.000 **BDO** P124.700 TEL P1,796.000 P33.900 P642.000 P2,328.000 Value Value Value P605,557,590 P402,306,845 Value P363,582,753 P302,446,380 Value P283,868,053 Value P276,529,435 P257,410,485 P158,767,907 P152,284,875 P147,577,840 P0.050 **0.167**% -P2.000 ▼ -0.990% -P14.000 ▼ -1.707% -P1.300 ▼ -1.032% -P40.000 ▼ -2.179% -P0.200 ▼ -0.587% P0.050 **0.054**% -P13.000 ▼ -1.985%

FDI net inflows drop to 10-month low

Gov't agencies urged to review budget proposals

THE DEPARTMENT of Budget and Management (DBM) on Monday urged government agencies to review their budget proposals for 2023, amid limited fiscal space.

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In a statement, the DBM said agencies should reevaluate their budget proposals for next year "to ensure the efficient use of limited resources and to provide additional fiscal space for new public programs and projects."

The Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) last month approved a record P5.268-trillion cap on the national budget for 2023, which represents 22.1% of the gross domestic product (GDP). Next year's budget is 4.9% higher than the P5.02-trillion budget for this year.

In National Budget Memorandum (NBM) No. 144, the DBM said agencies should make sure that Tier 1 or existing programs and Tier 2 or new programs are in line with the government's spending direction and other key

strategies, as well as the incoming administration's priorities.

The programs should also be implementation-ready and can be completed within a year. These should also reflect the agency's absorptive capacity.

"For the National Government to maximize the use of limited resources and to practice prudent public financial management, the departments/agencies are hereby encouraged to reevaluate their Tier 1 proposals," the DBM said.

"Given the absence of additional fiscal space for FY 2023, these adjustments in the Tier 1 levels may provide some headroom for direly needed Tier 2 proposals for new and expanded PAPs (program, activity and projects)."

Budget proposals for Tier 2 or new programs should focus on "health-related expenditures, disaster-risk management, social security, digital economy/government, local government support, Budget, S1/10

'Compelled by circumstances': Some banks forecast 75-bp Fed hike

SINGAPORE — Investment banks have ramped up projections for US interest rate rises following a hotter-thanxnected inflation reading, with se now forecasting a 75-basis-point (bp) hike this week.

The US Federal Reserve meets on Wednesday in the midst of heavy selling in stock and bond markets following May data showing the US consumer price index (CPI) rising at its fastest pace

A 75-bp hike would be the biggest since 1994

CME's FedWatch tool, based on the prices of short-term credit futures, shows about a 1/4 chance of a 75-bp rate hike at this month's meeting and a better-than-even chance of there being at least one 75 bp hike by next month's

"The May inflation data was so concerning that we think the Fed will react even more aggressively in moving gist John Velis said on Monday. His note forecast a 75-bp hike on June 15, up from 50 bps.

to change our view (and) so communi-

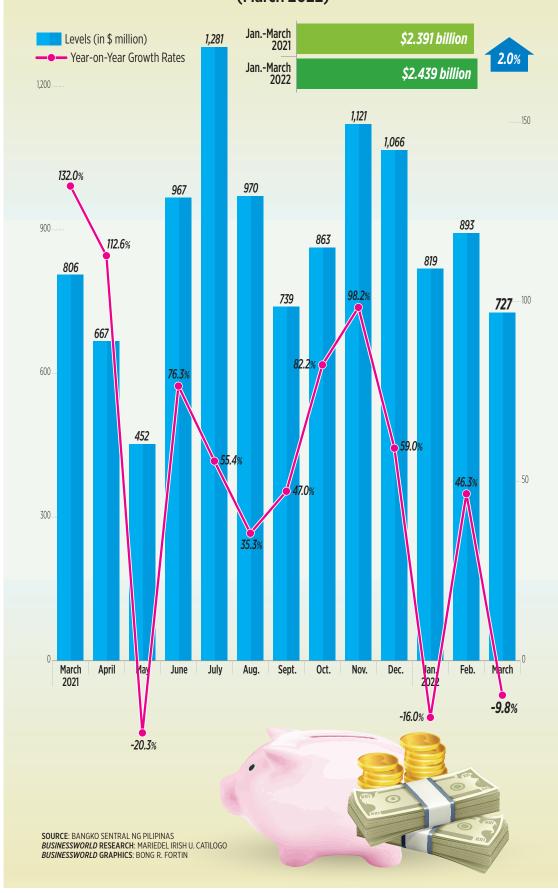
Barclays and Jefferies also forecast a

"US CPI surprised to the upside and continues to show broad and persistent price pressures," Barclays analysts said in a Sunday note. "We think the Fed probably wants to surprise markets to re-establish its inflation fighting credentials."

highest since late 2007. — *Reuters*

NET FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

(March 2022)



NET INFLOWS of foreign direct investment (FDI) slumped to its lowest in 10 months in March, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine darkened the outlook for investments.

\$1/1-12 • 1 SECTION, 12 PAGES

Data released by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) on Monday showed FDI net inflows dropped by 9.8% to \$727 million in March from \$806 million a year earlier.

This was the lowest monthly FDI inflow recorded since the \$452 million seen in May 2021.

The month's FDI net inflows fell by 18.5% from \$893 million in February.

"While the country's macroeconomic fundamentals remain sound, external risks, such as the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on commodities and financial market condition, the start of policy tightening in several major central banks and the resurgence of CO-VID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) cases in many Asian economies, may have contributed to investors' concern about the outlook on the global economic recovery," the BSP said in a statement.

Russia began its invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, sending shockwaves throughout the global economy. Oil and commodity prices soared, clouding the outlook for economic growth.

The US Federal Reserve raised its policy interest rate by 75 basis points since March, and is expected to continue policy tightening to cool inflation.

BSP data showed non-residents' net investments in debt instruments of local affiliates jumped by 45% to \$543 million in March, from \$374 million a year ago.

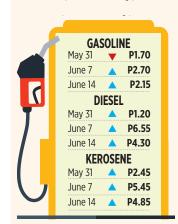
Also, investments in equity and investment fund shares dropped by 57.3% in March to \$184 million.

Non-residents' net investments in equity capital (other than reinvestment of earnings) plunged by 69.6% to \$106 million from \$349 million in the same month last year. Equity capital placements fell by 68.7% to \$118 million, while withdrawals dropped by 58.2% to \$12 million.

The equity placements were mainly from Japan, the United States, and Singapore, and invested mostly in manufacturing, real

FDI, S1/10

FUEL PRICE TRACKER



• June 14, 12:01 a.m. — Caltex • June 14, 6 a.m. — Petron Corp.; Phoenix Petroleum: Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.; PTT Philippines Corp.; Seaoil Philippines, Inc. June 14. 8:01 a.m. — Cleanfuel (Shaw Autogas, Inc.)

rates 'expeditiously," BNY Mellon strate-"We felt compelled by circumstances

cate it."

75-bp hike for this week.

Markets have braced, too, with a sell-off in short-dated Treasuries along with futures tied to the Fed policy rate extending in Asia on Monday. Yields on the two-year Treasury note are at their

BSP to turn GS purchasing window into regular facility

By Keisha B. Ta-asan

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) on Monday said it will reconfigure its government securities (GS) purchasing window into a regular liquidity facility under the interest rate corridor (IRC) framework.

"Reconfiguring the GS window into a regular liquidity facility that can operate under normal and crisis conditions ensures consistency with overall monetary strategy," BSP Governor Benjamin E. Diokno said at his weekly press briefing.

"This is consistent with the BSP's thrust to develop a broad range of instruments and new operating

procedures to fight future crises." The central bank started issuing 28-day BSP bills in September 2020, as an additional tool to manage liquidity in the financial system amid the pandemic.

"The issuance of BSP Securities provides an additional monetary tool for implementing monetary policy. It also promotes greater flexibility in managing liquidity in the financial system under the interest rate corridor or IRC framework," Mr. Diokno said.

The normalization of the BSP's GS window involves three stages: transition, reconfiguration, and re-launching.

The transition stage includes scaling down its daily purchases in the GS window as it shifts into a standard facility. Nevertheless, the facility could be reactivated

if justified by market conditions. The second stage involves the conversion of the GS window from

being a standing facility into an

active operation that is consistent with the overall monetary strategy consistent with the IRC framework.

The BSP introduced the IRC system to guide short-term market interest rates towards the central bank's policy rate. It consists of a rate at which the BSP lends to banks (typically an overnight lending rate) and a rate at which it takes deposits from them (deposit rate).

When the reconfiguration is finished, the BSP will re-launch the government securities outright transactions. Marketsounding activities and technical assistance from international institutions will be included.

"Basically, BSP is just reversing what it did during the pandemic when it flooded the market with excess liquidity. Now that inflation can no longer be ruled out as transitory, BSP's reconfiguration

of its open market operation using GS will have to do the heavier lifting. BSP has to normalize its balance sheet too," former BSP Deputy Governor Diwa C. Guinigundo said in a Viber message.

The share of outstanding placements in BSP Securities accounted for 35% of the total amount of system liquidity absorbed by the BSP through its liquidity management facilities as of end-May 2022.

"With the economy in much better shape and at hopefully what is the tail end of the pandemic, BSP opted to close this emergency window as there was less need for such a facility," ING Bank N.V. Manila Senior Economist Nicholas Antonio T. Mapa said in an e-mail.

"Any increases in yield are likely tied to other developments such as accelerating inflation or increase government borrowing and normal market trading activity is now taking place."

Inflation jumped to 5.4% in May, the fastest in three and a half years, as food and fuel prices continued to climb amid the prolonged Russia-Ukraine war.

The BSP last month raised its average inflation forecast for 2022 to 4.6% from 4.3%, exceeding the 2%-4% target.

Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. Chief Economist Michael L. Ricafort said in a Viber message these liquidity management tools "provide greater options, leeway, and flexibility to monetary authorities to effectively respond to evolving economic and business conditions and challenges, such as the COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) pandemic/lockdowns."

