P25 IN METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES

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STOCK MARKET

PSEi — 30 DAYS TO JULY 28, 2022

OPEN:	6,274.72
HIGH:	6,379.26
LOW:	6,274.72
CLOSE:	6,379.26
VOL.:	0.568 B
VAL(P):	4.726 B

▲ 142.50 PTS. 2.28%

ASIAN MARKETS

JULY 28, 2022

	CLOSE		NET	%
Japan (Nikkei 225)	27,815.48	▲	99.73	0.36
Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	20,622.68	▼	-47.36	-0.23
Taiwan (Weighted)	14,891.90	▼	-29.69	-0.20
Thailand (SET Index) *	1,576.41	▲	23.23	1.50
S.Korea (Kse Composite)	2,435.27	▲	19.74	0.82
Singapore (Straits Times)	3,221.67	▲	16.53	0.52
Sydney (All Ordinaries)	6,889.70	▲	66.50	0.97
Malaysia (Klse Composite)	1,491.20	▲	20.49	1.39

* CLOSING PRICE AS OF JULY 27, 2022

WORLD MARKETS

JULY 27, 2022

	CLOSE		NET
Dow Jones	32,197.590	▲	436.050
NASDAQ	12,032.423	▲	469.848
S&P 500	4,023.610	▲	102.560
FTSE 100	7,348.230	▲	41.950
Euro Stoxx50	3,610.750	▲	13.090

PESO-DOLLAR RATES

FX — 30 DAYS TO JULY 28, 2022

OPEN	P55.580
HIGH	P55.550
LOW	P55.970
CLOSE	P55.820
W.AVE.	P55.722
VOL.	1,271.29 M

▼ 14.00 CTVS

SOURCE : BAP

ASIAN MONIES-US$ RATE

JULY 28, 2022

	LATEST BID (0900GMT)		PREVIOUS
Japan (yen)	135.310	▲	136.700
Hong Kong (HK dollar)	7.850	▼	7.849
Taiwan (NT dollar)	29.936	▼	29.934
Thailand (baht)	36.570	▲	36.790
S. Korea (won)	1,301.390	▲	1,314.000
Singapore (dollar)	1.381	▲	1.388
Indonesia (rupiah)	14,930	▲	15,010
Malaysia (ringgit)	4.449	▲	4.456

WORLD CURRENCIES

JULY 28, 2022

	CLOSE		PREVIOUS
US$/UK pound	1.2172	▲	1.2067
US$/Euro	1.0201	▲	1.0143
$/Aust dollar	0.6998	▲	0.6950
Canada dollar/US$	1.2798	▼	1.2848
Swiss Franc/US$	0.9567	▼	0.9604

DUBAI CRUDE OIL

FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY

$101.40/BBL ▼ $3.50

30 DAYS TO JULY 27, 2022

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JULY 28, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on *S1/4*; article on *S2/2*)

		Value			
SMPH	P36.700	P369,427,600	P0.550	▲	1.521%
CNVRG	P19.700	P280,496,084	-P0.180	▼	-0.905%
ALI	P25.000	P256,681,210	P0.600	▲	2.459%
SM	P800.000	P211,414,425	P20.000	▲	2.564%
BPI	P91.800	P199,522,280	P4.800	▲	5.517%
BDO	P119.400	P199,150,742	P2.400	▲	2.051%
AEV	P57.500	P185,049,341	P2.500	▲	4.545%
GLO	P2,070.000	P167,040,310	-P30.000	▼	-1.429%
AC	P620.000	P166,131,665	P20.000	▲	3.333%
ICT	P189.700	P153,786,053	P4.700	▲	2.541%

BSP to continue policy tightening

THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas (BSP) is ready to use the "full force" of monetary policy measures to curb inflation and support the Philippine peso, after the United States Federal Reserve delivered another super-sized rate hike.

"The action of the US Federal Reserve, along with the tightening of global financial conditions and broadening uncertainty over global growth prospects, could continue to drive exchange rate movements in emerging market economies, including in the Philippines," BSP Governor Felipe M. Medalla said in a statement.

"In order to manage the spillover effects of such external developments, the BSP is prepared to utilize the full force of available measures in order to address the potential risks to Philippine inflation and inflation expectations arising from an overshooting or excessive depreciation of the Philippine peso."

The US Federal Reserve on Wednesday delivered a 75-basis-point (bp) rate hike for the second straight meeting, as it continued its fight against inflation.

In a bid to keep up with the Fed, the BSP raised its benchmark rates by 75 bps in an off-cycle move on July 14. The Monetary Board has raised policy rates by a total of 125 bps this year.

The Monetary Board is scheduled to hold its next policy meeting on Aug. 18. Mr. Medalla on Tuesday signaled they might consider a rate hike of 25-50 bps next month.

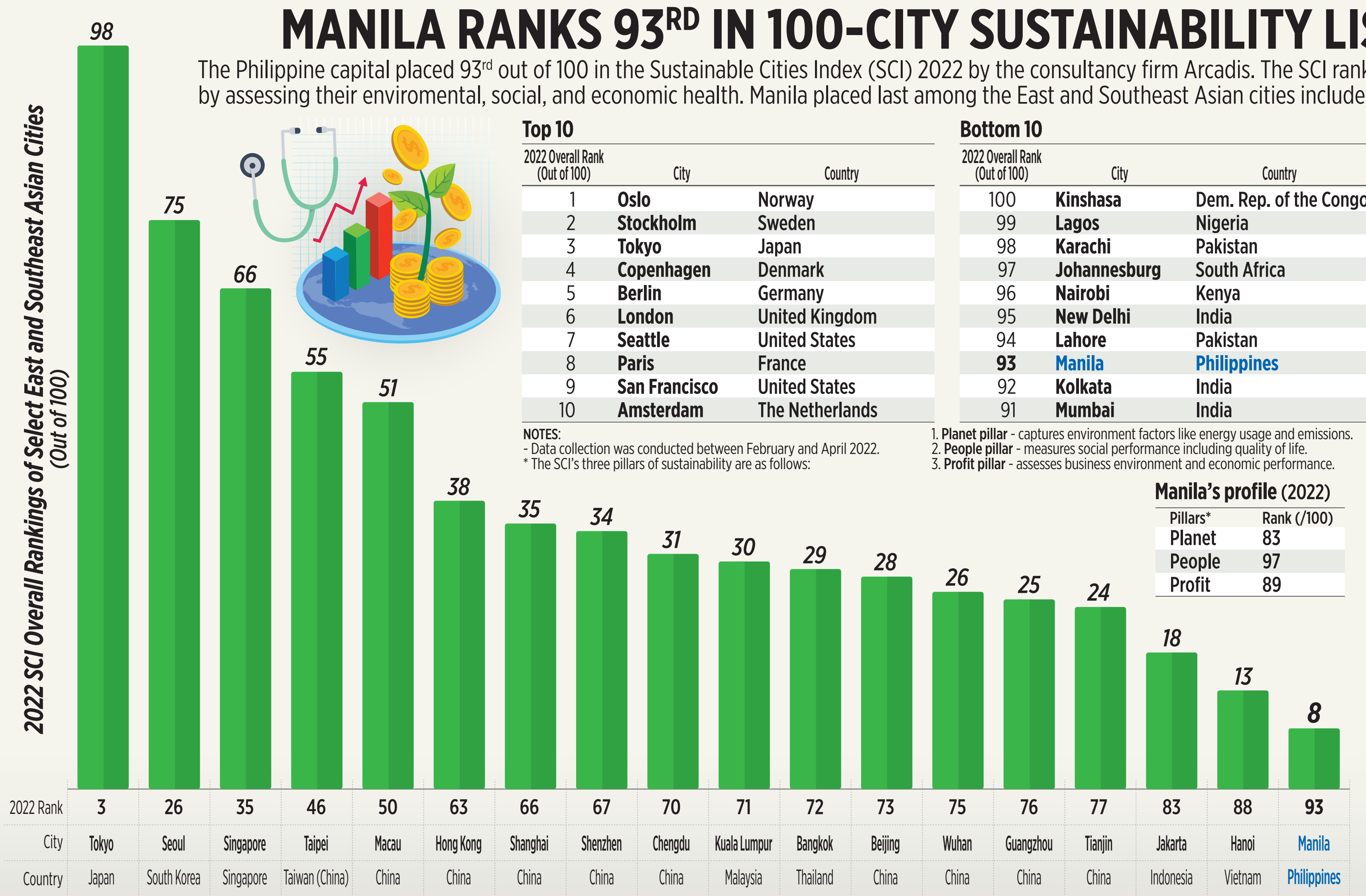
The Philippine peso closed at P55.82 a dollar on Thursday, shedding 14 centavos from its P55.68 finish on Wednesday, based on Bankers Association of the Philippines data. The peso breached the P56 level against the US dollar earlier this month.

"Looking ahead, the BSP stands ready to take all necessary monetary policy action to bring inflation back toward a target-

BSP, S1/2

MANILA RANKS 93RD IN 100-CITY SUSTAINABILITY LIST

The Philippine capital placed 93rd out of 100 in the Sustainable Cities Index (SCI) 2022 by the consultancy firm Arcadis. The SCI ranks global cities by assessing their enviromental, social, and economic health. Manila placed last among the East and Southeast Asian cities included in the index.



Top 10

2022 Overall Rank (Out of 100)	City	Country
1	**Oslo**	Norway
2	**Stockholm**	Sweden
3	**Tokyo**	Japan
4	**Copenhagen**	Denmark
5	**Berlin**	Germany
6	**London**	United Kingdom
7	**Seattle**	United States
8	**Paris**	France
9	**San Francisco**	United States
10	**Amsterdam**	The Netherlands

Bottom 10

2022 Overall Rank (Out of 100)	City	Country
100	**Kinshasa**	Dem. Rep. of the Congo
99	**Lagos**	Nigeria
98	**Karachi**	Pakistan
97	**Johannesburg**	South Africa
96	**Nairobi**	Kenya
95	**New Delhi**	India
94	**Lahore**	Pakistan
93	**Manila**	Philippines
92	**Kolkata**	India
91	**Mumbai**	India

NOTES:
- Data collection was conducted between February and April 2022.
* The SCI's three pillars of sustainability are as follows:
1. **Planet pillar** - captures environment factors like energy usage and emissions.
2. **People pillar** - measures social performance including quality of life.
3. **Profit pillar** - assesses business environment and economic performance.

Manila's profile (2022)

Pillars*	Rank (/100)
Planet	83
People	97
Profit	89

SOURCE: THE ARCADIS SUSTAINABLE CITIES INDEX 2022 *BUSINESSWORLD* **RESEARCH**: MARIEDEL IRISH U. CATILOGO *BUSINESSWORLD* **GRAPHICS**: BONG R. FORTIN

Philippine tourism industry's water and energy consumption still below pre-pandemic levels

THE PHILIPPINE tourism industry's water and energy consumption, as well as carbon dioxide emissions, remained well below pre-pandemic levels despite the gradual recovery in 2021.

Preliminary data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) showed the tourism industry's water consumption rose by 19% to 132.54 million cubic meters (cu.m.) in 2021, from 111.38 million cu.m. in 2020 when most tourism-related businesses were closed due to the pandemic.

However, this is still significantly lower than the 705.14 million cu.m. of water used by the industry in 2019 or before the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

The tourism industry's share in total Philippine water consumption remained at 2.5%, lowest since 2012.

By sector, hotels, resorts and other tourist accommodations had the highest water consumption at 105.54 million cu.m., representing 79.6% of total tourism water consumption. This was followed by food and beverage services (12%), entertainment and creation services (3.5%) and transport services (3.3%).

The Philippines began easing lockdown restrictions in the last quarter of 2021, as COVID-19 cases dropped and vaccination coverage widened. This allowed more tourism-related businesses to resume operations.

Meanwhile, the tourism industry's energy consumption fell by 4.7% year on year to 3,041.99 kilotons of oil equivalent (KTOE) in 2021.

Tourist accommodations accounted for the highest energy consumption in 2021 with 1,356.21 KTOE or 44.6% of the total energy consumption.

Also, carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions from the use of petroleum and electricity reached 3,888.18 Gigagrams (Gg) of CO_2 in 2021, 10.9% lower than 4,366.09 Gg in 2020.

Tourism, S1/2

BIR, BoC ordered to fast-track modernization

FINANCE Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno has ordered the country's revenue collection agencies to accelerate their digitalization transformation programs to improve the Philippines' tax effort.

"My marching order to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) the Bureau of Customs (BoC) is to fast-track their respective modernization programs to increase our tax effort," he said at an event organized by FinTech Alliance.ph on Thursday.

The BIR and BoC began implementing digital programs to facilitate trade and make the filing and payment of taxes easier amid the pandemic in 2020. These efforts helped sustain tax collection efforts despite the lockdowns.

"The government expects to collect more revenues on the back of a faster and more broad-based economic growth. Thus, efficient and effective tax administration will be critical in funding our socio-economic priorities," Mr. Diokno said.

The BIR aims to collect P2.43 trillion this year, while the BoC set a collection target of P671.66 billion.

Earlier, Mr. Diokno said he was not inclined to seek new taxes, preferring to improve tax administration instead.

On Thursday, he said digitalization would widen financial inclusion in the Philippines.

"We will accelerate the rollout of the Philippine Identification System to bring us closer to the goal of achieving e-governance and widen access to financial products and services among our people," he added.

When he was Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) governor, Mr. Diokno said he set the goal to digitize half of all retail payments and onboard 70% of Filipino adults into the formal financial system by next year.

"Under President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.'s administration, we will put greater emphasis on pursuing technological innovations to build new industries, enhance the delivery of public services, and create many employment and investment opportunities," he said.

Modernization, S1/2

Hint of a Fed pause opens door to Asia's emerging markets

SINGAPORE — As the United States pushes ahead with its steepest interest rate hikes in a generation, investors are unusually poised to buy in Asia's emerging markets, betting authorities can tame inflation without triggering the capital-flight chaos of previous cycles.

While no rally is under way, steadying currency, debt and equity markets suggest investors may have already stopped rushing for the exits.

Beaten-down currencies such as South Korea's won and the Malaysian ringgit rallied on Thursday, and stock and bond markets in Seoul, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Manila responded positively to the US Federal Reserve's latest rate hike.

The Fed, which met market expectations with a 75-basis-point (bp) rise overnight, has now lifted rates by a total of 150 bps at two meetings — the fastest since the early 1980s.

The target window for the benchmark funds' rate is at its mid-2019 level of 2.25% to 2.5%.

But Fed Chairman Jerome H. Powell noted slowing spending and production foreshadowed an eventual slowdown in hikes.

Traders have taken the remarks as confirmation that a peak in US interest rates is near and, with it, a top for the dollar and a trough for despair.

"These days, emerging market currencies, especially Asian currencies, have been — from my point of view — oversold," said Masafumi Yamamoto, chief currency strategist at Mizuho Securities in Tokyo.

"Looking at the rising US equity market and the less-hawkish communication by Mr. Powell, this is supporting Asian currencies and other emerging market (EM) currencies, and the recovery of EM should continue."

Bellwether markets in South Korea and Indonesia are showing signs that the worst may be over. Rather than collapsing, benchmark 10-year bonds in Indonesia have held up relatively well: the yield premium over Treasuries has actually narrowed this year. — *Reuters*

FULL STORY

Read the full story by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or by typing the link <bit.ly/Asia072922>