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STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
PSEi OPEN: 6,291.37 HIGH: 6,291.37 LOW: 6,235.67 CLOSE: 6,259.54 42.17 pts. 0.66% VOL.: 0.491 B VAL(P): 4.829 B 30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 23, 2022	SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 JAPAN (NIKKEI 225)* 27,153.83 ▼ -159.30 -0.58 HONG KONG (HANG SENG) 17,933.27 ▼ -214.68 -1.18 TAIWAN (WEIGHTED) 14,118.38 ▼ -166.25 -1.16 THAILAND (SET INDEX) 1,631.71 ▼ -13.58 -0.83 S.KOREA (KSE COMPOSITE) 2,290.00 ▼ -42.31 -1.81 SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES) 3,227.10 ▼ -35.97 -1.10 SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES) 6,574.70 ▼ -125.50 -1.87 MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE) 1,424.98 ▼ -14.18 -0.99	SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 DOW JONES 29,590.410 ▼ -486.270 NASDAQ 10,867.926 ▼ -198.879 S&P 500 3,693.230 ▼ -64.760 FTSE 100 7,018.600 ▼ -140.920 EURO STOXX50 3,336.630 ▼ -69.790	FX OPEN P58.350 HIGH P58.250 LOW P58.500 CLOSE P58.500 W.AVE. P58.349 VOL. P985.00 M 1.00 CIV 30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 SOURCE: BAP	SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 LATEST BID (0900GMT) PREVIOUS JAPAN (YEN) 143.320 142.330 HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR) 7.849 7.850 TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR) 31.803 31.578 THAILAND (BAHT) 37.530 37.310 S. KOREA (WON) 1,421.340 1,407.440 SINGAPORE (DOLLAR) 1.431 1.417 INDONESIA (RUPIAH) 15,035 15,015 MALAYSIA (RINGGIT) 4.577 4.565	SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 US\$/UK POUND 1.0856 ▼ 1.1307 US\$/EURO 0.9690 ▼ 0.9871 \$/AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR 0.6527 ▼ 0.6640 CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.3589 ▲ 1.3460 SWISS FRANC/US\$ 0.9819 ▲ 0.9747	FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY 109.00 102.00 95.00 88.00 81.00 75.00 30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/2; article on S2/2)

ALI	P25.000	SMC	P97.650	ICT	P181.900	SM	P808.000	MBT	P51.850	SMPH	P34.050	BPI	P93.200	CNVRG	P15.140	GLO	P2,174.000	SCC	P41.000
Value	P714,022,080	Value	P406,338,474	Value	P380,398,797	Value	P281,510,315	Value	P254,326,749	Value	P200,506,360	Value	P194,752,215	Value	P150,656,726	Value	P148,236,640	Value	P139,314,260
-P0.550 ▼	-2.153%	P0.000	0.000%	P0.900 ▲	0.497%	-P11.500 ▼	-1.403%	-P0.150 ▼	-0.288%	-P0.150 ▼	-0.439%	-P0.800 ▼	-0.851%	P0.220 ▲	1.475%	P32.000 ▲	1.494%	-P0.050 ▼	-0.122%

BSP may continue rate hikes this year

By Keisha B. Ta-asan

THE PHILIPPINE central bank would probably increase key rates further this year to protect the peso amid a hawkish US Federal Reserve, analysts said at the weekend.

The local currency would continue its free fall against the dollar if the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) "lags too much" behind the Fed's aggressive policy tightening, First Metro Investment Corp. and University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P) said in a joint report.

"We expect another 25-basis-point (bp) [increase] before the end of the year if inflation remains above 6.5%," they said.

The BSP raised key interest rates on Thursday for a fifth time this year to tame inflation amid a struggling peso. It increased its overnight borrowing rate by 50 bps to 4.25% effective Friday, and its corresponding lending rate to 4.75%, as predicted by 11 of 15 analysts in a *BusinessWorld* poll two weeks ago.

The move followed the Fed's 75-bp hike and signals of larger increases to come that caused the peso and Philippine stocks to tumble.

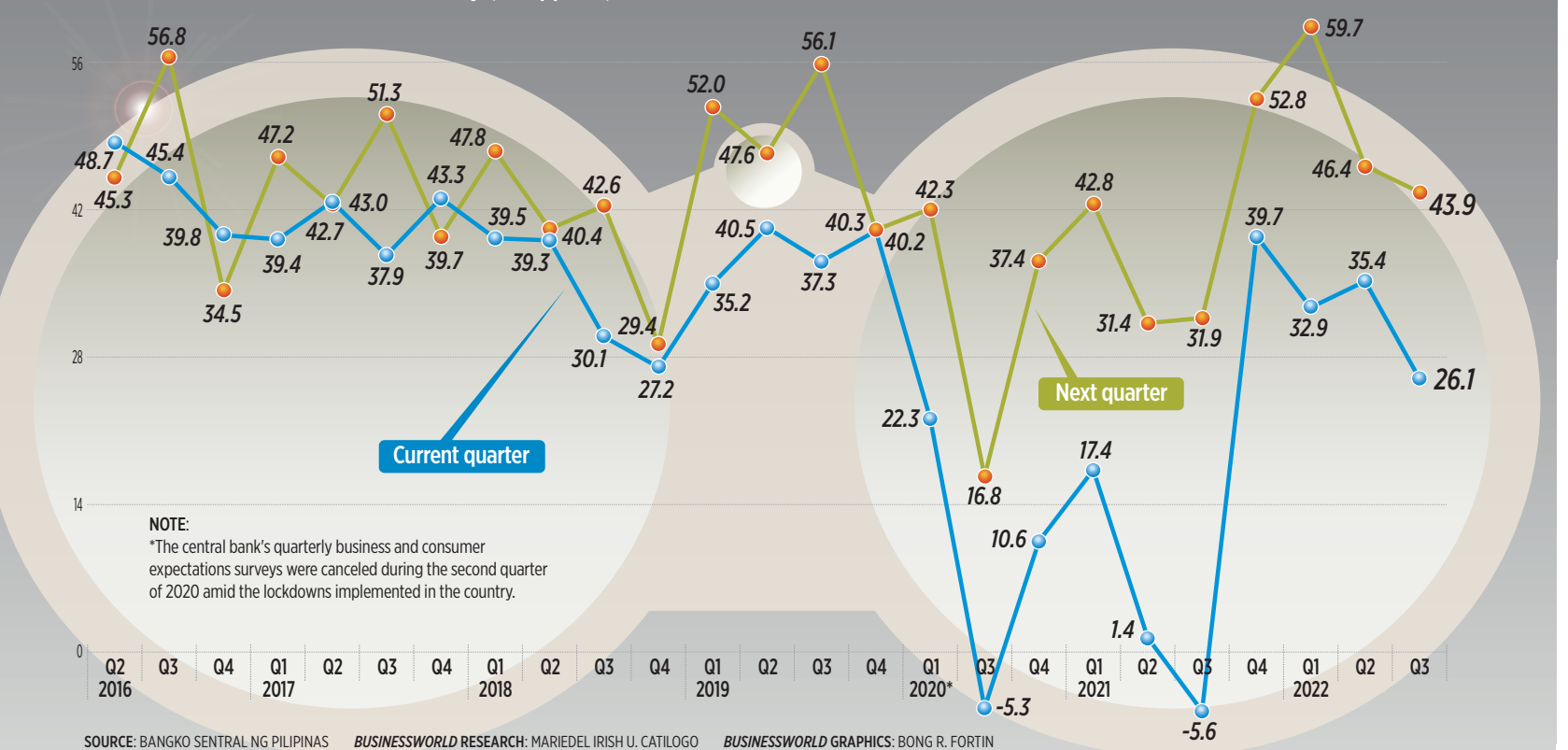
The central bank has raised key rates by 225 bps since May versus the Fed's 300 bps since March.

The peso closed at P58.50 a dollar on Friday from P58.49 a day earlier, based on Bankers Association of the Philippines data. It has weakened by 14.7% or P7.50 this year from its P51-a-dollar close last year.

BSP, S1/8

BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS SURVEY

Overall Business Outlook on the Macroeconomy (Philippines)



Senators vow swift passage of 2023 appropriations bill

By Alyssa Nicole O. Tan Reporter

SENATORS at the weekend ruled out the possibility of a reenacted budget, vowing to swiftly pass the proposed P5.268-trillion national budget for next year.

"The passage is as guaranteed as Christmas happening on Dec. 25," Senator Francis Joseph "Chiz" G. Escudero said in a Viber message. "The era of the reenacted budget is over. There is only one important deadline here: that the President signs it before the end of the year."

"There has always been only one main hurdle in budgeting and that is the limitation imposed by funds," he added. "No matter how you slice and dice the budget, you come up with the same conclusion — you need a bigger cake but you don't have the ingredients to bake a bigger one."

Next year's budget is 4.9% higher than this year and is equivalent to 22.2% of the gross domestic product.

The Senate expects to approve the 2023 budget bill by mid-December, according to Senator Juan Edgardo M. Angara, who heads the Finance Committee.

"The Senate is on track with its budget calendar and we will work hard to finish on time without getting in the way of senators' and the public's right to be heard in the budget debates," Senator Ana Theresia "Risa" N. Hontiveros-Baraquel said in a Viber message.

Appropriations, S1/5

Economists expect less optimistic macroeconomic goals

ECONOMISTS expect less upbeat macroeconomic targets when Philippine government economic managers meet to revisit the goals in December, citing the battered peso and persistently high inflation.

"I don't think that the targets will be as upbeat as before," Leonardo A. Lanzona, who teaches economics at the Ateneo de Manila University, said in an e-mail last week.

The peso's depreciation against the dollar and rising interest rates would probably reduce investments and consumption, he added.

"Revisions are warranted especially on debt servicing and transactions involving foreign currency because these are

costing us more," John Paolo R. Rivera, an economist at the Asian Institute of Management, said in a text message.

Economists from First Metro Investment Corp. (FMIC) and University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P) on Saturday said they expect the Philippine economy to grow by 6.5% this year, which is at the lower end of the government's 6.5-7.5% target.

On Friday, Socioeconomic Planning Undersecretary Rosemarie G. Edillon said the Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) might revisit macroeconomic assumptions in December.

"It really has to do with the actions of the Federal Reserve, and we're hoping that is very temporary," she told a forum.

Increased remittances from Filipinos overseas during the Christmas holidays could boost the peso, she pointed out.

"There are active inflows to our international reserves. We have very strong sources of those reserves, like remittances [and] business process outsourcing," she said. The recovery in the tourism industry is also a source of foreign currency.

"The seasonal increase in overseas Filipino workers' remittances and export sales in the fourth quarter could provide some support for the peso exchange rate especially toward the end of the year," Mr. Ricafort said.

But the US Federal Reserve's continued policy tightening to quell elevated inflation is a major factor, he said in a Viber message.

Mr. Rivera and Mr. Lanzona said dollar remittances might not be enough to offset the Fed's hawkish stance.

"This may be significant but not necessarily enough given the aggressiveness of the Fed and given the pressures on inflation to increase due to demand pull and the persistent cost push inflation," Mr. Rivera said.

"Even today, remittances are being received and yet the depreciation is at its highest levels," Mr. Lanzona said.

The peso closed at an all-time low of P58.50 a dollar on Friday, a centavo weaker than its close a day earlier, according to data from the Bankers Association of the Philippines.

Economists, S1/5