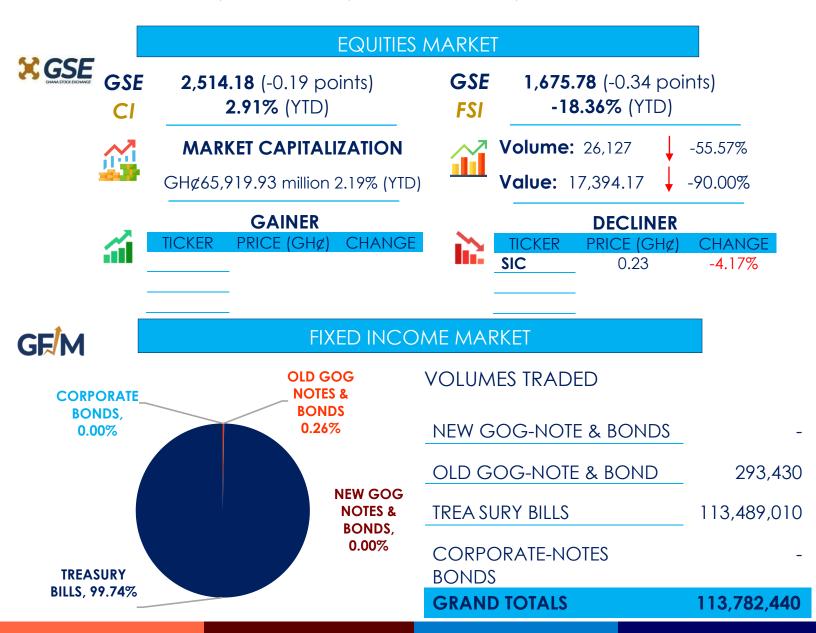


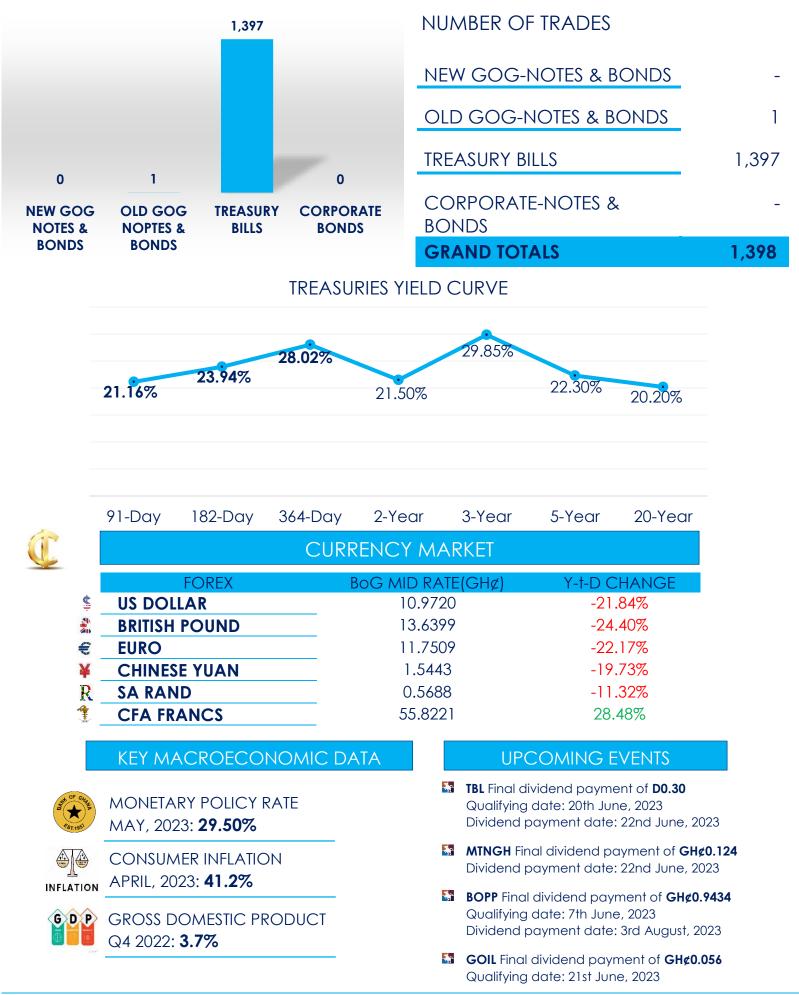
SIC BROKERAGE LTD. Your Preferred Stockbroker (Member of the Ghana Stock Exchange)

MORNING BRIEF

NEWS HEADLINES

- Encourage acquisition, mergers of banks and NBFIs if needed IMF tells government: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has proffered three policies aimed at mitigating risks and ensuring the stability of the banking and Non-Bank Financial Institutions (NBFIs). These were captured under the Risk Assessment Matrix contained in the recent IMF country report on Ghana. The first policy suggests strengthening financial safety nets and closely monitoring the liquidity and asset quality of banks and NBFIs. The second policy involves designing an appropriate strategy to recapitalize banks and NBFIs. And lastly, the IMF encourages acquisitions and mergers as a means to address any necessary consolidation in the financial space. (Myjoyonline)
- Inflationary pressures soften again, leading to improving demand: A further softening of inflationary pressures helped to support demand across Ghana's private sector during May. As a result, stronger expansions in output, new orders, and purchasing activity were signaled and the business outlook brightened. Meanwhile, better raw material availability contributed to a series-record improvement in suppliers' delivery times. The S&P Global Ghana Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) was unchanged at 51.3 in May, thereby signaling an improvement in business conditions for the fourth successive month. A key theme across the PMI survey in May was the positive impact of softening price pressures on customer demand and wider activity in the private sector. Although companies continued to increase their selling prices midway through the second quarter, the rate of inflation eased for the sixth month running from last November's series record and was the softest in just over two years. (Business & Financial Times)





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