

Market Comment | Risk-off mood eases slightly across the board.

Unidad de Mercados Financieros Globales

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- **Potential plans to support growth in China and Japan.** In China, the Ministry of Finance said that it will strengthen fiscal policies, increase infrastructure spending and accelerate the reform of its tax system to support growth. In Japan, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe vowed to lower the corporate tax rate by at least 3.3%. He said that he would lower the effective corporate tax rate by at least 3.3% "next year" and will "aim to go beyond that if possible." "We will push forward in reducing the rate down into the twenties over several years, bringing it to a level that compares favourably in the international context," Abe said. "We will change Japan into a country that is able to keep growing. Placing the economy as my highest priority, I will move forward steadily, step by step, on the roadmap for achieving this goal."
- **Job openings in the US rise to a record high in July.** The number of job openings again surged to 5.75 million in July from 5.323 million, the highest since the series began in December 2000 and beating expectations.
- **Risk-off mood eases slightly across the board.** Markets risk indicators suggested that investors were more prone to take risks (VIX: 24.15 (-3.0%)). On the one hand, equity markets and cyclical commodity prices (metal commodities) rebounded today, whereas safe-haven assets, such as US Treasury, German bund and gold prices declined. Expectations of further growth support measures in Japan and China boosted equity markets across the board (led by the Nikkei), after several weeks of continuous falls (S&P 500: 0.2% Euro Stoxx: +1.7%, CAC: +2.0 %, Ibex-35: +2.2%, DAX: +0.8%, Nikkei: +7.7%, Shanghai: +2.29). In line with the easing in risk aversion, safe-haven bonds declined, sending yields slightly higher (US10Y: +5bp, GER 10Y: +3bp). Meanwhile, the peripheral yields also rose, with the exception of Greece (ITA 10Y: +1bp, SPA 10Y: +3bp, POR 10Y: +1bp, GRE 10Y: -29bp). However, the peripheral risk premium remained broadly flat. On FX markets, the funding currencies depreciated against the USD (JPY: -0.98%, EUR: -0.33%), while commodity-linked currencies appreciated against the US dollar (Australian dollar +0.27%, Canadian dollar +1.13%). EM currencies showed a mixed performance, as the European EM currencies depreciated against USD (RUB: -0.2%, TRY: -0.6%), while South American currencies appreciated (BRL: +1.0%, CLP: +0.4%, MXN: +0.3%). On another front, in commodities the oil prices continued falling (Brent: -1.5%, WTI: -1.7%), whereas the copper price remained flat after yesterday's dramatic surge and gold fell (-1.0%) due to the slight risk-on mood.

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Table1

*CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay

**Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

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