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News, Views & Statistics

Venezuela's Maduro seeks OPEC help against U.S. sanctions - letter

Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro has sought OPEC support against U.S. sanctions imposed on his country's oil industry, citing their impact on oil prices and potential risks for other members of the producer group. But a source familiar with the matter said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, of which Venezuela is a founding member, had declined to make any formal statement. OPEC says it is concerned with oil policy, not politics. More than 40 nations including the United States, European powers and most of Latin America have recognized Maduro's rival, Juan Guaido, as the country's rightful head of state, following disputed elections last year. The request was made in a letter sent to OPEC Secretary-General Mohammad Barkindo dated Jan. 29 and seen by Reuters, a day after the United States imposed sanctions on Venezuelan state oil firm PDVSA. "Our country hopes to receive the solidarity and full support of the member countries of OPEC and its ministerial Conference, in the fight we are currently having against the illegal and arbitrary intrusion of the United States in the internal affairs of Venezuela," Maduro wrote. I seek "your firm support and collaboration to jointly denounce and face this shameless dispossession of ... important assets of one of the members of OPEC", the letter said. He wrote that OPEC should help to determine potential solutions based on "the impact that this action has on the global energy market, and the risk it represents for the other countries ... of this organization". The sanctions on Venezuela have boosted global oil prices, which were trading at around \$62 a barrel on Monday. The move has disrupted shipments as more than 20 tankers loaded with Venezuelan oil have been anchored off the U.S. Gulf Coast. Still, analysts say there is ample spare capacity in other oil producers such as Saudi Arabia plus strategic reserves in consuming nations to compensate for a loss of Venezuela's exports. OPEC tends to avoid political disputes involving individual members. Last year, it declined a request from Iran for a discussion of U.S. sanctions against Tehran at a policy-setting meeting.

Malaysia's Palm Oil stocks fall 6.7 in January: MPOB

Malaysia's palm oil stockpiles at the end of January fell 6.7 percent from the previous month to 3 million tons, industry regulator MPOB said in its latest report. Production in January fell 3.9 percent from the previous month to 1.74 million tons. Exports, however, jumped 21.2 percent from December to 1.68 million tons, according to MPOB data. Exports of Malaysian palm oil products during Feb 1-10 fell 13.0% to 393,353 tons from 451,845 tons shipped during Jan 1-10, cargo surveyor Intertie Testing Services said.

COMMODITY	CLOSE	S2	S1	PIVOT	R1	R2	TREND
SILVER	39870	39579	39724	39887	40032	40195	Up
GOLD	33045	32759	32902	33051	33194	33343	Up
CRUDE OIL	3706	3601	3653	3704	3756	3807	Up
COPPER	439.55	435.10	437.30	439.70	442.00	444.40	Down
NATURAL GAS	190.80	180.30	185.60	190.60	195.90	200.90	Down
JEERA	15470	15320	15395	15490	15565	15660	Down
TURMERIC	6346	6260	6304	6344	6388	6428	Down
SOYBEAN	3727	3677	3702	3740	3765	3803	Up
RM SEED	3934	3888	3911	3928	3951	3968	Up
GUAR SEED	4238	4103	4171	4220	4287	4336	Up



International Markets

COMMODITY	CLOSE	%	
		CHANGE	
LONDON SPOT GOLD	\$1308.43	-0.42	
LONDON SPOT SILVER	\$15.70	-0.76	
NYMEX CRUDE OIL	\$52.13	-1.08	
NYMEX NATURAL GAS	\$2.674	+2.30	

Economic Data

Data	Previous	Forecast	Time
No major release	-	-	-

RECOMMENDATIONS

ZINC

ZINC FEB: SELL AT 189.60-189.70 TP-188.25/187.20 SL ABOVE 190.50.



Zinc ended the day in a bearish candlestick yesterday. The correction is likely to get intense as short term traders look to exit long positions.



COCUD

COCUD MAR: SELL BELOW 1995 TP-1957 SL ABOVE 2027.



COCUD is facing resistance at upper levels and is likely to witness a sharp fall once the immediate supports are breached.



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