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**US** : No relief package hangs over US economy. Meantime, President Trump is busy spreading conspiracy theories of a rigged election and ignoring rising Covid cases. Despite the vaccines approved for use in UK and soon in the US, the fear of exploding spread due to holiday season is threatening to shut economies again. The Fed has done all they can on monetary policy. It is now left to govt to spend to stimulate economies. **Low rates are expected to continue to provide support for the year ahead.**

**China:** China is positioned to benefit from expected improved trade in the year ahead. Although the incoming US President will likely take a less nationalistic stance, it is also overly optimistic to expect the US to reel back entrenched hardline position the outgoing President took immediately. There **remains ample room for China to cut rates but the need for further stimulus has diminished.**

**Malaysia:** Balancing economic activity and further spread of the virus is crucial. There is still **room to cut rates** if the next quarter remains challenged. BNM will likely be data dependent though optimism of recovery is growing as vaccines are now available. **Probability of rate cut in the near future is low but maintaining at current accommodative stance is necessary.**