Tokyo futures rise from four-month low (May 14)

TOKYO, May 14 (Reuters) – Key rubber futures on the Tokyo Commodities Exchange rose from a four-month low early on Monday as concerns about Greece's future in the euro were offset by a boost for the market from China's decision to cut bank reserve ratios.

FUNDAMENTALS * The key Tokyo Commodity Exchange rubber contract for October delivery was up 4.4 yen, or 1.6 percent, at 287.9 yen as of 0042 GMT. It fell to 284 yen on Friday, the lowest level since Jan. 17. MARKET NEWS * Japan's Nikkei share average opened slightly firmer on Monday as uncertainty about Greece's future in the euro was offset by a boost to the market from China's decision to cut bank reserve ratios. * U.S. crude prices fell below \$96 a barrel on Monday, pressured by China's slowing economy, the increasing likelihood of a Greek exit from the euro zone, and Saudi's call for higher oil stock levels. DATA EVENTS * The following data is expected on Monday: - 0900 EZ Industrial production yy Mar - 1500 U.S. Export wheat inspections Weekly - 1500 U.S. Export corn inspections Weekly - 1500 U.S. Export soybean inspections Weekly - 1500 U.S. NOPA-Soy crush Apr - China FDI (ytd) May (Reporting by Aaron Sheldrick; Editing by Richard Pullin)