

U Capital Morning Brief

28 March 2019

Market Indices	Current Close	Change	D/D	YTD	Price to Earnings	Price to Book	Div Yield
	Index	Point	%	%	(x)	(x)	%
U Capital Oman 20 Index	855.70	-16.03	-1.87%	-2.57%	-	-	-
U Capital GCC 50 Index	1,410.20	-0.40	-0.03%	7.68%	-	-	-
U Capital MENA 200 Index	1,105.20	0.65	0.06%	5.75%	-	-	-
MSCI GCC Countries Index	584.91	4.01	0.69%	8.75%	15.09	1.90	3.7%
Muscat Securities Market	4,047.32	-2.08	-0.05%	-6.39%	8.43	0.78	6.5%
Saudi Stock Exchange	8,766.33	87.45	1.01%	12.01%	19.59	1.97	3.3%
Kuwait Stock Exchange	5,574.20	35.92	0.65%	9.74%	15.36	1.37	3.6%
Qatar Exchange	10,105.06	169.59	1.71%	-1.88%	14.06	1.48	4.3%
Bahrain Stock Exchange	1,413.21	5.17	0.37%	5.68%	9.06	0.87	5.8%
Dubai Financial Market	2,614.35	-0.82	-0.03%	3.34%	8.35	0.95	5.2%
Abu Dhabi Exchange	5,109.42	-17.44	-0.34%	3.95%	14.31	1.46	4.8%
Beirut Stock Exchange	959.99	4.35	0.46%	-1.72%	4.90	0.58	10.3%
Palestine Stock Exchange	539.79	-10.66	-1.94%	1.97%	10.92	1.22	4.4%
Tunis Se Index	6,975.66	-19.03	-0.27%	-4.07%	17.91	2.45	2.1%
EGX 30 Index	14,554.66	-82.74	-0.57%	11.65%	16.11	1.45	2.1%
Amman General Index	1,929.62	0.15	0.01%	1.09%	13.23	0.96	5.0%

* Kuwait YTD data is not available as the Index was reconstituted in April'18

World Markets	Country	Value	D/D	YTD	Currency Cross Rates		
Europe			%	%	Currency	USD/1 Unit	Units/1 USD
FTSE 100	UK	7,194.2	-0.03%	6.9%	Australian Dollar (AUD)	0.710	1.409
DAX	Germany	11,419.0	0.00%	8.1%	British Pound (GBP)	1.319	0.758
CAC 40	France	5,301.2	-0.12%	12.1%	Canadian Dollar (CAD)	0.746	1.341
United States					Chinese Renminbi (CNH)	0.148	6.740
DJIA	USA	25,625.6	-0.13%	9.9%	Egyptian Pound (EGP)	0.058	17.324
S&P 500	USA	2,805.4	-0.46%	11.9%	Euro (EUR)	1.125	0.889
NASDAQ	USA	7,643.4	-0.63%	15.2%	Indian Rupee (INR)	0.014	69.013
Asia Pacific					Japanese Yen (JPY)	0.009	110.180
NIKKEI 225	Japan	21,087.8	-1.37%	5.4%	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)	0.682	1.467
HANG SENG	Hongkong	28,736.1	0.03%	11.2%	Omani Rial (OMR)	2.597	0.385
KSE 100 Index	Pakistan	38,965.0	-0.01%	5.1%	Pakistani Rupee (PKR)	0.713	140.283
NSE Nifty 50	India	11,514.9	0.61%	6.0%	Russian Ruble (RUB)	0.015	64.837
SHANGHAI Composite	China	3,014.8	-0.26%	20.9%	Singapore Dollar (SGD)	0.738	1.355
KOSPI Index	South Korea	2,132.0	-0.63%	4.5%	Turkish Lira (TRY)	0.185	5.409

Commodity Prices	Price	D/D	YTD	GCC 3m Interbank Rates	Current Rate %
	USD	%	%		
Oil				UAE	2.85
Brent Crude (per bbl)	67.7	-0.15%	24.7%	Saudi Arabia	2.87
WTI Crude (per bbl)	59.2	-0.29%	30.5%	Kuwait	2.63
Oman Crude Oil (Last Closing)	67.0	-0.71%	25.3%	Oman	2.82
OPEC (per bbl)	67.0	1.27%	30.0%	Qatar	2.89
Precious Metals				Bahrain	3.77
Gold100 OZ (per oz)	1,310.8	0.09%	2.2%		
Silver (per oz)	15.3	0.09%	-1.2%		
Platinum (per oz)	856.2	0.30%	7.6%		
Other Metals					
Copper, MT	6,335	0.08%	6.2%		
Aluminium, MT	1,911	1.22%	3.5%		
Lead, MT	2,008	0.75%	-0.6%		
Zinc, MT	2,887	0.49%	17.0%		

Midswaps	Price	YTM %	USD Libor	Rate (%)
3 year	100.72	2.12	1m	2.50
5 year	99.87	2.15	3m	2.60
10 year	102.38	2.35	6m	2.68
30 year	103.94	2.81	1 year	2.72

Source: Bloomberg

Note: All values are updated at 9:00 AM Muscat Time. Markets are closed on Saturday and Sunday

OMAN ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

NBC event focuses on innovative projects

The National Business Centre (NBC), an initiative of the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Mada'yn), organised Reyooq discussion session on 'Innovative Projects' at the Knowledge Oasis Muscat (KOM) on Wednesday.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

Majan Capital Fund, Fincorp Al Amal Fund merger approved

The fund unit-holders approved the merger of Majan Capital Fund and Fincorp Al Amal Fund by incorporation at their respective extra ordinary meeting and annual general meeting held on March 26, 2019 at Fincorp Head office.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

Pact signed for potable water supply in Sohar

An agreement was signed between Sohar Industrial City and Majis Industrial Services for potable water service. The agreement aims at creating an integrated supply of water services and supply of potable water to the industrial city with a capacity reaching 10,000 cubic metres per day.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

Gas supply prioritised for existing consumers: Aufi

Oman's output of natural gas, although bolstered by prodigious supplies from BP Oman's Khazzan field in Block 61, is primarily earmarked for existing consumers. Consequently, allocations towards any new customer can be considered only after an "extremely careful" assessment of the availability of adequate volumes to meet the long-term requirement of the project, according to the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Oil and Gas.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

BANK NIZWA PLANS TO EXPAND ITS BRANCH NETWORK

Bank Nizwa CEO, Khalid al Kayed, said the bank currently operates 13 branches and soon another one will be opened, thus taking total number of branches in the country to 14. Speaking to reporters at a roundtable discussion organised by the Islamic lender at its head office, Bank Nizwa CEO, Khalid al Kayed highlighted the prospects for the growth of Islamic finance in Oman supported by the unique model adopted in the sultanate.

Source: [Muscat Daily](#)

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Mideast Stocks: Blue-chips lift Qatar, Banks boost Saudi

Qatar's stock market rose on Wednesday, lifted by shareholder approval for an increase in foreign ownership limits at Qatar Fuel and Mesaieed Petrochemical, while Saudi Arabia rose on the back of its banks. The Qatar index rose 1.7 percent, with 18 of 20 stocks increasing. Qatar Fuel added 4.2 percent and Mesaieed Petrochemical was up 5.8 percent.

Source: [Zawya](#)

Alandalus paid off SAR 1.8 mln debts in 2018: CEO

Alandalus Property Co. has settled all debts by the end of 2018, Hathal Alutaibi, the company's chief executive officer told Argam in an exclusive on Wednesday. "All options are available for the company to study the optimum financing structure and generate the highest profit," Alutaibi said.

Source: [Argam](#)

Dubai economic growth at its slowest since 2009 debt crisis

Dubai's economy grew 1.94 percent in 2018, the government said on Wednesday, hitting its slowest pace since a contraction in 2009 when the economy was hobbled by a debt crisis.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Qatar's Nebras explores \$1-bn Paiton Energy stake sale

Qatari energy investment company Nebras Power is considering selling its stake in PT Paiton Energy, one of Indonesia's largest independent power producers, Bloomberg reported on Wednesday, citing sources.

Source: [ET Energy World](#)

Zain signs SAR 2.5 bln agreement for the sale and lease back of its towers

Mobile Telecommunications Co. Saudi Arabia (Zain) has signed an agreement with IHS Holding Limited for the sale and lease back of its passive towers infrastructure, the company said in a bourse statement.

Source: [Argaam](#)

SAMA urges consolidation in Saudi insurance sector: Alkholifey

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA), the Kingdom's central bank and insurance market regulator, urged insurers to strengthen their financial position and seek mergers, Ahmed Alkholifey Governor of SAMA said on Wednesday.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Property buyers are back with increased transactions

Dubai's property market is witnessing signs of green shoots as the number of transactions increased in the first two month of 2019 while developers also report good numbers as lower prices attract new buyers despite oversupply in the market. "In the first two months of 2019, there is increase in number of transactions. There are more buyers in the market. The government's initiatives like 100 per cent foreign ownership and 10-year visa are the privilege that the investors are looking for.

Source: [Zawya](#)

Kuwait Central Bank issues bonds worth \$660mln

The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) on Tuesday announced issuing bonds and related tawarruq worth KWD 200 million (\$660.45 million), with a yield of 3%. The issue, which has a three-month maturity, was oversubscribed 12.82 times, while the total value of requests amounted to KWD 2.56 billion, the CBK said in a statement.

Source: [Zawya](#)

Aramco to Acquire \$69 Billion Sabic Stake in Record Mideast Deal

Saudi Aramco, the world's biggest oil producer, will buy a majority stake in local chemical giant Sabic from the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund for \$69.1 billion, transferring a big slug of cash from one arm of the state to another to help finance Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's economic agenda.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS**Fed's George says wait-and-see approach needed for policy**

The U.S. economy faces "notable" risks and the central bank can take a wait-and-see approach to monetary policy, Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank President Esther George said on Wednesday.

Source: [Reuters](#)

China will cut real interest rate levels, lower financing costs: Premier Li

China will cut "real interest rate levels" and lower financing costs for companies, Premier Li Keqiang said on Thursday in a speech at the annual Boao forum held in the southern island of Hainan.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Bond yields spiral lower, take stocks along for the ride

Asian share markets were painted red on Thursday as recession concerns sent bond yields spiraling lower across the globe, overwhelming central bank efforts to calm frayed nerves.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Contagion Fears Return as Turkey Keeps Investors Trapped in Lira

The most vulnerable corners of emerging markets are bracing for turbulence as Turkey's stand-off with investors begins to test the nerves of traders.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

Stocks Slide Again as Bond-Yield Drop Stokes Worry: Markets Wrap

Stocks declined again in Asia as the precipitous decline in developed-market sovereign bond yields continued to unnerve investors about the economic outlook. Yields on 10-year Treasuries hit a fresh 15-month low on Thursday in Asia, and Australian ones recorded the lowest on record, while Japan's are near levels unseen since 2016.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

COMMODITIES NEWS

Oil Falls After EIA Reports Crude Build

Crude oil prices fell slightly after the Energy Information Administration reported a moderate build in U.S. crude oil inventories for the week to March 22. These added 2.8 million barrels in the period, the EIA said a day after the American Petroleum Institute reported a surprising build in inventories.

Source: [Oil Price](#)

Ubhar Capital SAOC (U Capital)

Ominvest Business Centre

Building no. 95

Way no. 501

Airport Heights

Tel: +968 2494 9000

Fax: +968 2494 9099

Email: research@u-capital.net

Website: www.u-capital.net



Disclaimer: This report has been prepared by Ubhar Capital (U Capital) Research, and is provided for information purposes only. Under no circumstances is it to be used or considered as an offer to sell or solicitation of any offer to buy. While all reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the information contained therein is not untrue or misleading at the time of publication, we make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and it should not be relied upon as such. The company accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any direct or indirect consequential loss arising from any use of this report or its contents. All opinions and estimates included in this document constitute U Capital Research team's judgment as at the date of production of this report, and are subject to change without notice. This report may not be reproduced, distributed or published by any recipient for any other purpose.
