

# U Capital Morning Brief

2 April 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	840.44	-15.26	-1.82%	-4.31%	-	-	-
U Capital GCC 50 Index	1,428.87	18.67	1.31%	9.10%	-	-	-
U Capital MENA 200 Index	1,111.03	5.83	0.52%	6.31%	-	-	-
MSCI GCC Countries Index	591.30	5.36	0.91%	9.94%	15.21	1.92	3.7%
Muscat Securities Market	3,960.99	-22.67	-0.57%	-8.39%	8.34	0.77	7.8%
Saudi Stock Exchange	8,896.55	77.11	0.87%	13.67%	19.84	1.99	3.2%
Kuwait Stock Exchange	5,626.70	8.88	0.16%	10.77%	15.80	1.39	3.4%
Qatar Exchange	10,154.89	47.47	0.47%	-1.40%	14.13	1.49	4.3%
Bahrain Stock Exchange	1,400.17	-13.15	-0.93%	4.70%	9.21	0.88	5.9%
Dubai Financial Market	2,696.85	61.99	2.35%	6.61%	9.65	0.98	5.0%
Abu Dhabi Exchange	5,055.29	-19.36	-0.38%	2.85%	14.18	1.45	4.9%
Beirut Stock Exchange	968.13	-4.58	-0.47%	-0.88%	4.95	0.58	10.2%
Palestine Stock Exchange	534.36	3.91	0.74%	0.95%	11.06	1.14	4.5%
Tunis Se Index	6,862.12	0.63	0.01%	-5.63%	17.62	2.41	2.1%
EGX 30 Index	14,954.14	216.26	1.47%	14.72%	16.02	1.48	2.1%
Amman General Index	1,912.34	-1.94	-0.10%	0.18%	13.63	0.94	5.2%

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

World Markets	Country	Value	D/D	YTD	Currency Cross Rates	USD/1 Unit	Units/1 USD
Europe			%	%	Currency		
FTSE 100	UK	7,317.4	0.52%	8.8%	Australian Dollar (AUD)	0.709	1.411
DAX	Germany	11,682.0	1.35%	10.6%	British Pound (GBP)	1.307	0.765
CAC 40	France	5,405.5	1.03%	14.3%	Canadian Dollar (CAD)	0.751	1.332
United States					Chinese Renminbi (CNH)	0.149	6.725
DJIA	USA	26,258.4	1.27%	12.6%	Egyptian Pound (EGP)	0.058	17.325
S&P 500	USA	2,867.2	1.16%	14.4%	Euro (EUR)	1.120	0.893
NASDAQ	USA	7,828.9	1.29%	18.0%	Indian Rupee (INR)	0.014	69.299
Asia Pacific					Japanese Yen (JPY)	0.009	111.360
NIKKEI 225	Japan	21,553.0	0.20%	7.7%	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)	0.678	1.476
HANG SENG	Hongkong	29,590.1	0.09%	14.5%	Omani Rial (OMR)	2.597	0.385
KSE 100 Index	Pakistan	38,354.9	0.00%	3.5%	Pakistani Rupee (PKR)	0.715	140.899
NSE Nifty 50	India	11,685.8	0.14%	7.6%	Russian Ruble (RUB)	0.015	65.185
SHANGHAI Composite	China	3,183.3	0.41%	27.6%	Singapore Dollar (SGD)	0.738	1.356
KOSPI Index	South Korea	2,173.3	0.23%	6.5%	Turkish Lira (TRY)	0.181	5.535

Commodity Prices	Price	D/D	YTD	GCC 3m Interbank Rates		Current Rate %
	USD	%	%			
Oil				UAE		2.79
Brent Crude (per bbl)	69.2	0.26%	26.8%	Saudi Arabia		2.87
WTI Crude (per bbl)	61.8	0.32%	36.1%	Kuwait		2.69
Oman Crude Oil (Last Closing)	68.8	2.12%	28.5%	Oman		2.82
OPEC (per bbl)	67.2	1.28%	30.4%	Qatar		2.88
				Bahrain		3.75
Precious Metals				GCC Latest 10-Yr Government Bond Yields		
Gold100 OZ (per oz)	1,286.6	-0.09%	0.3%		Maturity date	YTM, %
Silver (per oz)	15.1	-0.23%	-2.7%			
Platinum (per oz)	850.1	0.04%	6.8%	Kuwait	3/20/2027	3.18
Other Metals				Abu Dhabi	10/11/2027	3.23
Copper, MT	6,471	-0.18%	8.5%	Qatar	6/2/2026	3.35
Aluminium, MT	1,899	-0.68%	2.9%	Saudi Arabia	3/4/2028	3.74
Lead, MT	2,021	0.20%	0.0%	Oman	1/17/2028	6.42
Zinc, MT	2,933	0.34%	18.9%	Bahrain	10/12/2028	5.94

Midswaps	Price	YTM %	USD Libor	Rate (%)
3 year	100.31	2.27	1m	2.49
5 year	99.21	2.29	3m	2.60
10 year	101.31	2.48	6m	2.66
30 year	102.52	2.87	1 year	2.71

Source: Bloomberg

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

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**OMAN ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS****ACWA Power's Zarqa IPP enters commercial operations**

ACWA Power on Monday announced the National Electric Power Company (Nepco) commenced commercial operations of its ACWA Power Zarqa combined cycle power plant on September 29, 2018.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

**Rating agencies unfair in assessment of Oman economy: Shura committee**

The Economic and Financial Committee of the Majlis A'Shura held a joint meeting with the delegation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to discuss the economic and financial developments in the Sultanate and the effectiveness of the measures taken by the government to contain the crisis of low oil prices.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

**Two new industrial cities on the anvil in Sultanate**

A new, predominantly minerals-based industrial city is proposed to be established in mineral-rich Thamrait in Dhofar Governorate, according to Hilal bin Hamad al Hasani (pictured), CEO — Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn).

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

**Sohar Refinery Improvement Project unveiled**

The Oman Oil and Orpic Group officially inaugurated yesterday one of its strategic growth projects — the Sohar Refinery Improvement Project (SRIP) — under the auspices of Dr Mohammed bin Hamad al Rumhy, Minister of Oil and Gas, Chairman of the Board of Directors and in the presence of a number of ministers, representatives of the State and Shura Councils along with senior officials from Daelim of South Korea and UK based Petrofac as well as community leaders.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

**MUSCAT AIRPORT RECORDS 8.7% RISE IN PASSENGERS, 2.2% INCREASE IN FLIGHTS**

The total number of passengers at Muscat International Airport rose by 8.7 per cent to 2.66mn at the end of February 2019, over the same period of the previous year. Also, the total number of flights at Muscat International Airport rose by 2.2 per cent to 19,043 in February 2019, from 18,642 for the same period of 2018, according to the latest monthly statistics released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI). The number of international flights at Muscat International Airport increased by 2.5 per cent to 17,375 during the two-month period of 2019, up from 16,948 for the same period of the previous year.

Source: [Muscat Daily](#)

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**MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS****Mideast Stocks: Dubai hits one-month high, major Gulf markets rise**

Dubai's stock market hit a one-month high on Monday, partly lifted by its largest bank Emirates NBD as one of its businesses prepares to list on the London Stock Exchange, while Qatar rose on back of its blue-chip banks. The Dubai index added 1.5 percent with Emirates NBD gaining 3 percent.

Source: [Zawya](#)

**Focus on renewables a 'natural way' forward for ACWA Power: CEO**

The decision by ACWA Power to invest in renewable energy projects in Africa and Southeast Asia has been made easy by the surge in renewables worldwide and the sector's robust demand outlook.

Source: [Argaam](#)

**Shaker Group targeting retrofit projects in its turnaround plan: CEO**

Saudi-based Al-Hassan Ghazi Ibrahim Shaker (Shaker Group) has begun implementing its strategic plan to streamline operations, creating efficiencies and cost reductions in an effort to turnaround the business, its CEO Azzam Saud Almudaiheem told Argaam in an exclusive interview.

Source: [Argaam](#)

**Aramco's \$10 bln-plus bond plan shows profits put top earner Apple in shade**

Saudi Aramco, the world's biggest oil producer, made core earnings of \$224 billion last year, almost three times as much as Apple, figures from the state-owned company showed on Monday ahead of its debut international bond issue. Previously reluctant to disclose its financials, Aramco had to reveal them in order to obtain a public rating and start issuing international bonds.

Source: [Zawya](#)

**Dubai payments firm Network International's share sale draws strong demand**

Payments processor Network International had its books covered rapidly on Monday after announcing a flotation that values the company at up to \$3bn in its forthcoming London listing, one source close to the deal said. Dubai-based Network International is the largest payments processor in the Middle East and Africa and is jointly owned by Dubai's largest bank Emirates NBD and private equity firms Warburg Pincus and General Atlantic.

Source: [Gulf Business](#)

**Saudi CMA approves Nayifat's IPO**

The Saudi Capital Market Authority (CMA) Board has issued its resolution approving Nayifat Finance Company's application for the offering of 36,500,000 shares representing (30.041%) of the company's share capital. The CMA said in a statement on Sunday that the company's prospectus will be published within sufficient time prior to the start of the subscription period.

Source: [Saudi Gazette](#)

**FTSE emerging market listing shows Kuwait means business**

Kuwait's capital markets have come a long way in recent years. Since the 2010 creation of a supervisory and regulatory body, the Capital Markets Authority (CMA), the conduct of securities trading in the country has become fairer and more transparent.

Source: [The Banker](#)

**DGCX sees 20% growth in March**

The Dubai Gold and Commodities Exchange (DGCX) posted a 20.4% year-on-year growth in March. The exchange's contracts rose to as much as 1.84 million with a notional value of \$36.6 billion in March, DGCX said in a statement on Monday.

Source: [Mubasher](#)

**Egypt current account deficit widens, tourism picks up, FDI falls**

Travel revenues rose to \$2.86 billion in the quarter from \$2.28 billion in the same quarter last year, Reuters calculations showed. Egypt's net foreign direct investments declined in the same period to \$1.74 billion from \$1.9 billion a year earlier.

Source: [Arab News](#)

**INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS****Manufacturing rebound lifts Asian shares to seven-month highs**

Asia shares extended their rally on Tuesday as positive Chinese and U.S. factory activity surveys aided investor confidence, and the ebbing concerns over the global economy spurred selling of safe-haven U.S. bonds as yields rose from 15 month troughs.

Source: [Reuters](#)

**No need for the Fed to enter 'panic mode' and cut rates now, says Moody's**

Top White House economic advisor Larry Kudlow and Heritage Foundation fellow Stephen Moore have both said the U.S. Federal Reserve should cut interest rates by 50 basis points. But Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said he's not sure "why the Fed needs to go into panic mode" when data are still pointing to a healthy economy.

Source: [CNBC](#)

**Sterling falls as British lawmakers fail to find an alternative to Brexit**

Sterling fell across the board on Monday as uncertainty rose after British lawmakers failed to find a convincing majority for any alternative option to Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit deal. Lawmakers grabbed control of the Brexit process for a second day on Monday in order to try to find a majority for an alternative way forward that could break the parliamentary deadlock.

Source: [CNBC](#)

**China's \$13 trillion bond market marks a milestone. Here's what it means**

Starting Monday, 364 onshore Chinese bonds will be added to the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index over the next 20 months. Analysts estimate that the full inclusion will attract around \$150 billion of foreign inflows into China's roughly \$13 trillion bond market — the third-largest in the world after the U.S. and Japan. The inflows will help support the Chinese yuan at a time when China's current account surplus is shrinking, said Khoo Goh, the head of Asia research at ANZ Bank.

Source: [CNBC](#)

## COMMODITIES NEWS

### Saudi Arabia may keep May crude prices little changed

Top oil exporter Saudi Arabia is expected to keep prices of various grades of crude it sells to Asia little changed in May from the previous month, trade sources said on Tuesday.

Source: [Reuters](#)

### Gold inches up as dollar eases; surge in equities caps gains

Gold prices inched up on Monday as the dollar backed off three-week highs, but gains in the metal were limited as equities rose on signs of progress in the Sino-U.S. trade talks and upbeat Chinese economic data. Spot gold was up 0.1 percent at \$1,293.15 per ounce by 0337 GMT, after touching its lowest since March 8 at \$1,286.35 in the previous session.

Source: [Zawya](#)