

U Capital Morning Brief

20 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	874.55	10.22	1.17%	-0.43%	-	-	-
U Capital GCC 50 Index	1,402.90	19.86	1.42%	7.12%	-	-	-
U Capital MENA 200 Index	1,102.83	12.71	1.15%	5.53%	-	-	-
MSCI GCC Countries Index	578.10	-0.02	0.00%	7.48%	14.91	1.88	3.7%
Muscat Securities Market	4,156.49	28.33	0.69%	-3.87%	8.68	0.79	6.3%
Saudi Stock Exchange	8,658.95	5.79	0.07%	10.63%	19.30	1.94	3.3%
Kuwait Stock Exchange	5,414.34	41.47	0.77%	6.59%	15.30	1.32	3.6%
Qatar Exchange	9,957.03	-15.65	-0.16%	-3.32%	13.91	1.46	4.4%
Bahrain Stock Exchange	1,420.32	7.01	0.50%	6.21%	9.09	0.88	5.8%
Dubai Financial Market	2,641.43	21.61	0.82%	4.41%	8.42	0.97	5.1%
Abu Dhabi Exchange	5,079.38	12.65	0.25%	3.34%	14.22	1.45	4.9%
Beirut Stock Exchange	961.47	0.44	0.05%	-1.56%	4.91	0.58	9.4%
Palestine Stock Exchange	550.06	-0.64	-0.12%	3.91%	11.08	1.24	4.3%
Tunis Se Index	6,787.52	-43.06	-0.63%	-6.66%	17.41	2.38	2.1%
EGX 30 Index	14,645.53	-265.25	-1.78%	12.35%	16.39	1.45	2.0%
Amman General Index	1,960.26	-10.82	-0.55%	2.70%	13.41	0.98	4.9%

* 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
			%	%	Currency		
Europe					Currency Cross Rates		
FTSE 100	UK	7,324.0	0.34%	8.9%	Australian Dollar (AUD)	0.707	1.414
DAX	Germany	11,788.4	1.13%	11.6%	British Pound (GBP)	1.326	0.754
CAC 40	France	5,425.9	0.24%	14.7%	Canadian Dollar (CAD)	0.750	1.333
United States					Chinese Renminbi (CNH)	0.149	6.717
DJIA	USA	25,887.4	-0.10%	11.0%	Egyptian Pound (EGP)	0.058	17.292
S&P 500	USA	2,832.6	-0.01%	13.0%	Euro (EUR)	1.135	0.881
NASDAQ	USA	7,723.9	0.12%	16.4%	Indian Rupee (INR)	0.014	69.110
Asia Pacific					Japanese Yen (JPY)	0.009	111.610
NIKKEI 225	Japan	21,577.7	0.05%	7.8%	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)	0.683	1.463
HANG SENG	Hongkong	29,313.8	-0.52%	13.4%	Omani Rial (OMR)	2.597	0.385
KSE 100 Index	Pakistan	38,612.4	0.00%	4.2%	Pakistani Rupee (PKR)	0.718	139.050
NSE Nifty 50	India	11,546.2	0.12%	6.3%	Russian Ruble (RUB)	0.016	64.385
SHANGHAI Composite	China	3,059.2	-1.03%	22.7%	Singapore Dollar (SGD)	0.739	1.353
KOSPI Index	South Korea	2,156.7	-0.96%	5.7%	Turkish Lira (TRY)	0.183	5.479

Commodity Prices	Price	D/D	YTD	GCC 3m Interbank Rates	Current Rate %
	USD	%	%		
Oil				GCC Latest 10-Yr Government Bond Yields	
Brent Crude (per bbl)	67.6	-0.09%	24.4%		
WTI Crude (per bbl)	58.9	-0.19%	29.8%		
Oman Crude Oil (Last Closing)	67.5	-0.16%	26.1%		
OPEC (per bbl)	66.9	-0.06%	29.7%		
Precious Metals					
Gold100 OZ (per oz)	1,304.9	-0.12%	1.8%		
Silver (per oz)	15.3	-0.21%	-1.0%		
Platinum (per oz)	856.2	0.46%	7.6%		
Other Metals					
Copper, MT	6,459	0.53%	8.3%		
Aluminium, MT	1,946	1.33%	5.4%		
Lead, MT	2,038	-0.10%	0.8%		
Zinc, MT	2,818	1.33%	14.2%		

Midswaps	Price	YTM %	USD Libor	Rate (%)
3 year	99.88	2.42	1m	2.49
5 year	99.79	2.42	3m	2.63
10 year	100.16	2.61	6m	2.67
30 year	99.58	3.02	1 year	2.82

Source: Bloomberg

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

OMAN ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

CBO to host GCC central bankers meeting

The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) will be hosting the 72nd meeting of the Committee of Governors of Monetary Institutions and Central Banks of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on Thursday. The meeting, which will be held at the GCC Supreme Council Consultative Authority building in Muscat, will be chaired by Tahir bin Salim bin Abdullah Al Amri, Executive President of the Central Bank of Oman.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

CBO issues treasury bills worth OMR75mn

Oman's central bank raised OMR75 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday. The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 28 days, from Wednesday until April 17, 2019. The average accepted price reached 99.811 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.810 per OMR100. Whereas the average discount rate and the average yield reached 2.46810 per cent and 2.47278 per cent, respectively.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

Al Mazunah Free Zone holds investors meet

The Quality Improvement Committee at Al Mazunah Free Zone, which is managed and operated by the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), held a meeting chaired by Said Al Balushi, Director General of Al Mazunah Free Zone and the committee's chairman. The meeting was held in the presence of the CEOs of the companies and factories investing in Al Mazunah Free Zone, in addition to the services' providers.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

FDI in Oman's power sector tops \$10bn

Total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Oman's electricity generation and water desalination sector has soared to around \$10 billion to date, underscoring the robust appeal of this key industry to international investors and utilities, according to a key official. Yaqoob al Kiyumi, CEO of Oman Power and Water Procurement Company (OPWP) — the sole off-taker of electricity and water under the Sector law — said the sector is also making a significant contribution to national development and economic growth.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

OMAN TARGETS 30% RENEWABLE ENERGY SHARE BY 2030

In a bid to diversify its energy sources, Oman has set an ambitious goal of covering 30 per cent of its electricity demand with renewable energy projects by 2030. With the launch of several major renewable energy projects in the sultanate, Oman Power and Water Procurement Co (OPWP) expects solar energy, wind farms and waste energy projects to account for as much as 30 per cent of the country's energy mix by 2030.

Source: [Muscat Daily](#)

Oman's gov't inks deal for \$3.85bn refinery

Omani oil and gas ministry and India's Accord Group have signed a \$3.85 billion deal to build an oil refinery in Sri Lanka. Located in 585 acres, the new refinery's production capacity is expected to reach 200,000 barrels per day (bpd). "The refinery, construction of which is expected to begin on 24 March and be completed in 44 months, is set to produce 9 million metric tonnes of refined products a year for export from the Hambantota port," Reuters reported citing Sri Lankan officials.

Source: [Mubasher](#)

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Mideast Stocks: Saudi inches up after index inclusion, Egypt hits 3-month low

Saudi Arabia's stock index edged up on Tuesday after touching a near-four year high on Monday, which was its first day as a member of FTSE Russell's emerging-market index. Egypt's blue-chip index, meanwhile, was pulled down by a wide sell-off to its biggest intra-day loss this year.

Source: [Zawya](#)

King Salman launches four projects worth SAR 86 bln in Riyadh

Saudi Arabia's King Salman launched four projects, worth SAR 86 billion, in Riyadh on Monday, Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The projects include King Salman Park, Riyadh Art, Sports Pathway and the Green Riyadh project, which are likely generate around SAR 71 billion in returns by 2030.

Source: [Argaam](#)

These are the top performing Saudi mutual funds in 2018

A total of 96 Saudi mutual funds, with net assets of over SAR 100 million, have shown mixed performance in 2018. Argaam tracks their performance in the study below: Riyadh Blue Chip Equity Fund, managed by Riyadh Capital, was the top performer last year, with a yield of 19.94 percent. It was followed by Riyadh Saudi Equity Fund with a 19.56 percent yield.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Tadawul expects SAR 2.5 bln passive inflows after FTSE inclusion: CEO

The potential inclusion of Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) in FTSE Russell Emerging Market (EM) index will lead to passive inflows of nearly SAR 2.5 billion in second tranche of inclusion, Khalid Al Hussan chief executive officer of Tadawul told Argaam in an exclusive on Tuesday. The expected passive inflows would represent 15 percent of the market weight in the second phase of the Kingdom's inclusion in the index.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Kuwait sees 3rd largest real estate deals in 10 yrs – Report

The real estate sector in Kuwait has continued its upward trend during 2018, bringing up the property deals to the third highest value in about 10 years, Kuwait Finance House (KFH) said in a report. The value of real estate transactions in the GCC nation soared by an unprecedented increase of 48% to KWD 3.8 billion, while the number of real estate deals rose 20% to 6,341 transactions, the report added.

Source: [Mubasher](#)

KAMCO's merger deal generates KWD 7.2m profit

KAMCO Investment on Tuesday announced the finalisation of a report on the consideration of a deal to acquire 396.43 million shares in Global Investment House. The deal generated KWD 7.2 million (\$23.71 million) in profit due to the fact that the fair value of the bought assets exceeded the deal's value, KAMCO added in a filing to Boursa Kuwait.

Source: [Mubasher](#)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Asian shares slip from 6-month high ahead of Fed policy decision

Asian shares slipped from six-month highs on Wednesday as investors took profits ahead of a policy decision by the U.S. Federal Reserve, which is expected to shed more light on its interest rate plans for the rest of the year.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Fed May Retain Bias to Hike Interest Rates: Decision-Day Guide

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell says the central bank has no bias in whether its next move is up or down, but his colleagues may deliver a more hawkish message. The Federal Open Market Committee is likely to forecast one interest-rate increase for this year, down from two in December's projection, plus one more hike in 2020 -- though it's a close call, according to economists surveyed by Bloomberg.

View OffersSource: [Bloomberg](#)

Money from London to New York Flocks to Saudi-Focused ETFs

Exchange-traded funds in the U.S. and the U.K. focused on Saudi Arabian equities are piling up new money this year, placing the Middle Eastern kingdom high in a global ranking. A London-based ETF and another that trades in New York together attracted around \$327 million in new money since the beginning of January. The net flow as a percentage of assets for Saudi Arabia funds increased about 47 percent this year, more than any other country in a ranking compiled by Bloomberg, after Croatia.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

COMMODITIES NEWS

Oil's Rally Stalls Near \$59 as U.S.-China Trade Jitters Return

Oil's rally stuttered as uncertainty over the status of trade negotiations between the U.S. and China stoked concerns over global economic growth. Futures for May fell as much as 0.4 percent in New York after closing 0.2 percent lower on Tuesday. China was said to be pushing back against American demands, raising speculation that trade tensions between the world's biggest economies will persist. Still, the price drop was cushioned by an American Petroleum Institute report that was said to show U.S. crude stockpiles declined 2.13 million barrels last week before government data due Wednesday.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)



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