

U Capital Morning Brief

19 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	874.44	16.73	1.91%	-0.44%	-	-	-
U Capital GCC 50 Index	1,384.50	-2.09	-0.15%	5.71%	-	-	-
U Capital MENA 200 Index	1,091.23	-0.19	-0.02%	4.42%	-	-	-
MSCI GCC Countries Index	578.12	7.01	1.23%	7.48%	14.84	1.88	3.7%
Muscat Securities Market	4,128.16	41.28	1.01%	-4.52%	8.62	0.79	6.3%
Saudi Stock Exchange	8,653.16	89.72	1.05%	10.56%	19.11	1.94	3.2%
Kuwait Stock Exchange	5,372.87	22.12	0.41%	5.77%	15.13	1.30	3.7%
Qatar Exchange	9,972.68	109.58	1.11%	-3.17%	13.93	1.46	4.4%
Bahrain Stock Exchange	1,413.32	3.41	0.24%	5.69%	9.04	0.87	5.8%
Dubai Financial Market	2,619.82	41.96	1.63%	3.56%	8.35	0.97	5.2%
Abu Dhabi Exchange	5,066.74	89.45	1.80%	3.09%	14.18	1.45	4.9%
Beirut Stock Exchange	961.03	6.57	0.69%	-1.61%	4.91	0.58	9.4%
Palestine Stock Exchange	550.70	4.75	0.87%	4.03%	11.09	1.24	4.3%
Tunis Se Index	6,830.58	-21.84	-0.32%	-6.07%	17.53	2.40	2.1%
EGX 30 Index	14,910.78	-122.70	-0.82%	14.38%	16.67	1.48	2.0%
Amman General Index	1,971.08	-4.25	-0.22%	3.26%	13.46	0.98	4.8%

* 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	7,299.2	0.98%	8.5%	Australian Dollar (AUD)	0.710	1.408
DAX	Germany	11,657.1	-0.25%	10.4%	British Pound (GBP)	1.327	0.754
CAC 40	France	5,412.8	0.14%	14.4%	Canadian Dollar (CAD)	0.750	1.333
United States					Chinese Renminbi (CNH)	0.149	6.718
DJIA	USA	25,914.1	0.25%	11.1%	Egyptian Pound (EGP)	0.058	17.332
S&P 500	USA	2,832.9	0.37%	13.0%	Euro (EUR)	1.134	0.882
NASDAQ	USA	7,714.5	0.34%	16.3%	Indian Rupee (INR)	0.015	68.559
Asia Pacific					Japanese Yen (JPY)	0.009	111.270
NIKKEI 225	Japan	21,564.8	-0.09%	7.7%	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)	0.686	1.458
HANG SENG	Hongkong	29,365.4	-0.17%	13.6%	Omani Rial (OMR)	2.597	0.385
KSE 100 Index	Pakistan	38,915.8	0.17%	5.0%	Pakistani Rupee (PKR)	0.718	139.050
NSE Nifty 50	India	11,473.4	0.10%	5.6%	Russian Ruble (RUB)	0.016	64.357
SHANGHAI Composite	China	3,090.8	-0.18%	23.9%	Singapore Dollar (SGD)	0.740	1.351
KOSPI Index	South Korea	2,178.3	-0.05%	6.7%	Turkish Lira (TRY)	0.183	5.471

Commodity Prices	Price	D/D	YTD	GCC 3m Interbank Rates	Current Rate %	
	USD	%	%			
Oil						
Brent Crude (per bbl)	67.6	0.09%	24.5%	UAE	2.82	
WTI Crude (per bbl)	59.1	-0.07%	30.0%	Saudi Arabia	2.89	
Oman Crude Oil (Last Closing)	67.6	0.42%	26.3%	Kuwait	2.69	
OPEC (per bbl)	66.9	-0.56%	29.8%	Oman	2.82	
Precious Metals						
Gold100 OZ (per oz)	1,307.2	0.27%	1.9%	Qatar	2.90	
Silver (per oz)	15.4	0.33%	-0.6%	Bahrain	3.83	
Platinum (per oz)	838.6	0.25%	5.4%	GCC Latest 10-Yr Government Bond Yields		
Other Metals						
Copper, MT	6,425	-0.09%	7.7%			
Aluminium, MT	1,921	1.24%	4.0%	Kuwait	3/20/2027	3.36
Lead, MT	2,040	-1.07%	0.9%	Abu Dhabi	10/11/2027	3.39
Zinc, MT	2,781	-0.32%	12.7%	Qatar	6/2/2026	3.42
				Saudi Arabia	3/4/2028	3.96
				Oman	1/17/2028	6.40
				Bahrain	10/12/2028	6.10

Midswaps	Price	YTM %	USD Libor	Rate (%)
3 year	99.93	2.40	1m	2.48
5 year	99.85	2.41	3m	2.63
10 year	100.25	2.60	6m	2.67
30 year	99.78	3.01	1 year	2.84

Source: Bloomberg

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

OMAN ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Shell Oman and OCCI sign key pact

Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and Chris Breeze, Shell Oman's Country Chairman have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance In-Country Value for Shell's Integrated Gas Project.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

95% work of new Omantel HQ completed

Peter Walichnowski, CEO of Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran) and Talal Said Al Mamari, CEO of Omantel, undertook an executive site inspection visit to the New Omantel headquarters project at Madinat Al Irfan Business Park. The CEOs and senior representatives of both companies were briefed on the various packages of the project which is nearing completion with 95 per cent of construction completed.

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

RfQ for \$800m Waste-to-Energy project in June

A Request for Qualifications (RfQ) for the procurement of Oman's first Waste-to-Energy (WTE) project is expected to be floated in June — an initiative designed to support the utilisation of the Sultanate's burgeoning volumes of municipal waste as a renewable resource for electricity generation.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

Omani FDI inflows expected to accelerate: CBO

The pace of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows is projected to pick up in the Sultanate, the Central of Bank of Oman (CBO) stated in a key report, citing a brightening macroeconomic outlook as well as the nation's steadily improving ranking on the Global Competitive Index.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Tadawul's inclusion in FTSE, S&P DJI begins today

The first tranche of Saudi Arabia's inclusion in the FTSE Russel and S&P DJI Emerging Markets indices begins today. The Kingdom will be the largest recent inclusion in the global indices, the biggest of which is the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, which it joins from May.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Alkhabeer REIT's units to debut on Tadawul March 20

Alkhabeer REIT Fund will start trading on Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) Wednesday, March 20, Tadawul said in a statement on Monday. The units will be listed on the Real Estate Investment Traded Funds (REITs) sector under the code 4348, with a daily price fluctuation limit of 10 percent each.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Al-Babtain inks \$16 mln supply deal for Jordan's Baynouna project

Al-Babtain Power Telecommunication Co. has signed a contract worth \$16.31 million (SAR 61.15 million) to supply solar power steel structures to Jordan's Baynouna solar project. The contract, awarded on Mar. 18, 2019, will be valid for six months starting from the signing date, the company said in a bourse filing on Monday.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Saudi Arabia curbs family influence in Binladin group shake-up

The influence of Saudi Arabia's Bin Laden family on its eponymous construction business has been curtailed in a restructuring that follows an anti-corruption crackdown by Riyadh, a document seen by Reuters shows. Saudi businessman Khalid Nahas has been named chairman of the newly-established Binladin Group Global Holding Company, which is 36.22 percent owned by Istadama, a finance ministry subsidiary, and 63.78 percent by BinladinCompany for Development and Commercial Investment.

Source: [Dawn](#)

UAE banks' net interest margins expected to remain under pressure

Net interest margins (NIMs) for nine of the ten biggest listed banks in the United Arab Emirates dropped during the fourth quarter (Q4) of last year, according to Alvarez and Marsal. In its UAE Banking Pulse report, the professional services firm

stated that NIMs for the UAE's biggest banks dropped by six basis points quarter-on-quarter, to 2.52 percent in Q4 2018, from 2.58 percent in Q3 2018 .

Source: [Zawya](#)

Mideast Stocks: Saudi closes at near 4-year high as it joins FTSE Russell index

Saudi Arabia's benchmark stock index closed at its highest in nearly four years on Monday as bank shares rose on its first day as a member of FTSE Russell's emerging-market index, which is expected to attract billions in passive fund inflows. Saudi's Tadawul index will have a weighting of 2.9 percent in the FTSE Emerging All Cap Index and later this year will join the MSCI emerging market benchmark. The market is positioned for passive fund inflows of around \$20 billion.

Source: [Zawya](#)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Asia firms spend less and save more as China economy slows

Corporate spending in Asia is likely fall for the first time in three years, a Reuters analysis of Refinitiv data showed, as businesses conserve cash in the face of a stalling Chinese economy, an unresolved trade dispute and Brexit uncertainty.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Dollar weaker on dovish Fed bets, sterling seesaws

The dollar was under pressure on Tuesday, weighed by growing expectations the Federal Reserve would shift to a more accommodative policy stance this week and concerns about slower U.S. economic growth.

Source: [Reuters](#)

Asian Stocks Fall Ahead of Fed; Dollar Steadies: Markets Wrap

Asian equities headed lower on Tuesday as traders awaited central bank meetings amid expectations of dovish signals to monetary policy. The dollar was steady after recent declines, while the yen advanced. Stocks dropped in Tokyo and saw more modest losses across the region. U.S. equities ticked higher after American stocks posted gains Monday that were enough to see benchmarks reach a five-month high.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

COMMODITIES NEWS

Oil near 2019 highs on OPEC supply cuts, U.S. sanctions

Oil prices were near 2019 highs on Tuesday, supported by supply cuts led by producer club OPEC. U.S. sanctions against oil producers Iran and Venezuela are also boosting prices, although traders said the market may be capped by rising U.S. output.

Source: [Zawya](#)