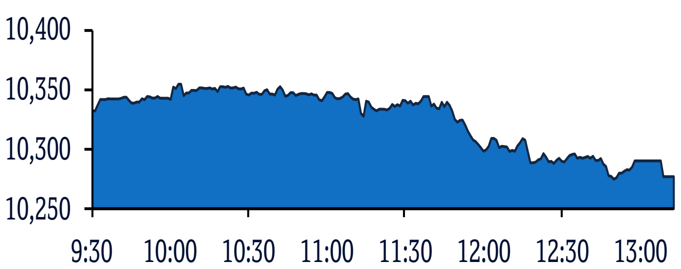
Daily Market Report

Tuesday, 10 December 2019

QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 1.0% to close at 10,277.0. Losses were led by the Banks & Financial Services and Industrials indices, falling 1.4% each. Top losers were Islamic Holding Group and QNB Group, falling 2.5% and 2.4%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Qatar Oman Investment Company gained 1.2%, while Gulf Warehousing Company was up 0.8%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index gained 0.3% to close at 8,120.0. Gains were led by the Media & Entertainment and Telecommunication Services indices, rising 1.3% and 0.9%, respectively. Saudi Industrial Services Co. rose 4.8%, while Sahara International Petrochemical Co. was up 4.2%.

Dubai: The DFM Index fell 0.4% to close at 2,684.4. The Transportation index declined 1.7%, while the Telecommunication index fell 1.6%. Dar Al Takaful declined 6.9%, while Takaful Emarat Insurance was down 6.6%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index fell 0.4% to close at 5,023.0. The Investment & Financial Services index declined 1.8%, while the Real Estate index fell 1.2%. Invest Bank declined 9.6%, while Gulf Cement Company was down 3.2%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.4% to close at 6,095.7. The Banks index rose 0.8%, while the Financial Services index gained 0.2%. Al Eid Food Company rose 7.9%, while Ekttitab Holding Company was up 6.8%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell 0.1% to close at 4,020.9. Losses were led by the Industrial and Services indices, falling 0.4% and 0.2%, respectively. Al Maha Petroleum Products fell 3.6%, while Renaissance Services was down 1.8%.

Bahrain: Market was closed on December 09, 2019.

Market Indicators	09 Dec 19	08 Dec 19	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	182.6	151.9	20.2
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	566,799.6	574,414.4	(1.3)
Volume (mn)	49.1	60.9	(19.4)
Number of Transactions	5,645	3,814	48.0
Companies Traded	42	43	(2.3)
Market Breadth	9:25	29:8	–

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	18,910.58	(1.0)	(0.8)	4.2	14.9
All Share Index	3,032.56	(1.2)	(0.9)	(1.5)	14.9
Banks	4,055.55	(1.4)	(1.0)	5.9	13.6
Industrials	2,944.25	(1.4)	(1.4)	(8.4)	20.2
Transportation	2,602.24	0.1	(0.2)	26.3	13.9
Real Estate	1,533.39	0.3	0.3	(29.9)	11.5
Insurance	2,705.79	(0.1)	0.5	(10.1)	15.5
Telecoms	913.12	(1.3)	(1.3)	(7.6)	15.6
Consumer	8,581.23	(1.0)	(0.8)	27.1	19.0
Al Rayan Islamic Index	3,937.41	(0.6)	(0.5)	1.4	16.3

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Sahara Int. Petrochemical	Saudi Arabia	16.26	4.2	5,839.4	(18.5)
Arab National Bank	Saudi Arabia	27.80	3.0	1,933.0	30.7
Samba Financial Group	Saudi Arabia	31.80	2.3	2,544.9	1.3
Nat. Commercial Bank	Saudi Arabia	48.65	2.2	2,999.2	1.7
Emirates NBD	Dubai	11.90	1.7	135.4	39.3

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	Qatar	19.31	(2.4)	2,436.0	(1.0)
Dar Al Arkan Real Estate	Saudi Arabia	10.70	(2.0)	6,782.6	18.6
Mesaieed Petro. Holding	Qatar	2.55	(1.9)	2,929.1	69.7
Industries Qatar	Qatar	10.27	(1.7)	632.1	(23.1)
Bank Dhofar	Oman	0.12	(1.7)	20.0	(24.6)

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (## GCC Top gainers/losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Oman Investment Company	0.60	1.2	975.9	11.4
Gulf Warehousing Company	5.16	0.8	480.8	34.1
United Development Company	1.48	0.7	3,703.1	0.3
Qatari Investors Group	1.78	0.6	432.1	(36.0)
Masraf Al Rayan	3.91	0.5	3,843.0	(6.2)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Islamic Holding Group	1.95	(2.5)	371.7	(10.8)
QNB Group	19.31	(2.4)	2,436.0	(1.0)
Qatar Industrial Manufacturing	3.36	(2.3)	47.4	(21.3)
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.55	(1.9)	2,929.1	69.7
Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Co.	2.05	(1.9)	503.4	138.6

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Ezdan Holding Group	0.63	(0.9)	6,632.2	(51.3)
Masraf Al Rayan	3.91	0.5	3,843.0	(6.2)
United Development Company	1.48	0.7	3,703.1	0.3
Al Khalij Commercial Bank	1.24	(0.8)	3,182.0	7.5
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.55	(1.9)	2,929.1	69.7

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	19.31	(2.4)	47,382.1	(1.0)
Qatar International Islamic Bank	9.69	(0.1)	16,028.6	46.6
Masraf Al Rayan	3.91	0.5	15,015.9	(6.2)
Qatar Islamic Bank	15.20	(1.1)	13,873.6	0.0
Qatar Fuel Company	22.65	(1.3)	13,609.2	36.5

Source: Bloomberg (* in QR)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded ($ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. ($ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,277.02	(1.0)	(0.8)	1.3	(0.2)	49.87	155,699.9	14.9	1.5	4.1
Dubai	2,684.44	(0.4)	(0.4)	0.2	6.1	48.43	99,538.6	10.7	1.0	4.4
Abu Dhabi	5,023.04	(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.2)	2.2	42.42	139,731.5	15.4	1.4	5.0
Saudi Arabia	8,120.01	0.3	2.7	3.3	3.7	1,065.07	507,655.9	20.9	1.8	3.7
Kuwait	6,095.65	0.4	0.9	2.8	20.0	110.71	114,095.6	15.0	1.4	3.5
Oman	4,020.87	(0.1)	(0.2)	(1.1)	(7.0)	3.05	17,319.0	7.6	0.7	7.4
Bahrain#	1,549.43	0.1	0.1	1.5	15.9	13.66	24,195.2	12.5	1.0	5.0

Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded ($ mn) do not include special trades, if any, #Data as of December 08, 2019)

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index declined 1.0% to close at 10,277.0. The Banks & Financial Services and Industrials indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from non-Qatari shareholders despite buying support from Qatari and GCC shareholders.
- Islamic Holding Group and QNB Group were the top losers, falling 2.5% and 2.4%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Qatar Oman Investment Company gained 1.2%, while Gulf Warehousing Company was up 0.8%.
- Volume of shares traded on Monday fell by 19.4% to 49.1mn from 60.9mn on Sunday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 70.2mn, volume for the day was 30.1% lower. Ezdan Holding Group and Masraf Al Rayan were the most active stocks, contributing 13.5% and 7.8% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	25.21%	17.98%	13,193,220.56
Qatari Institutions	30.83%	33.05%	(4,049,637.65)
Qatari	**56.04%**	**51.03%**	**9,143,582.91**
GCC Individuals	1.21%	0.58%	1,159,385.89
GCC Institutions	1.87%	0.19%	3,066,813.13
GCC	**3.08%**	**0.77%**	**4,226,199.02**
Non-Qatari Individuals	8.28%	7.16%	2,038,269.07
Non-Qatari Institutions	32.60%	41.04%	(15,408,050.99)
Non-Qatari	**40.88%**	**48.20%**	**(13,369,781.92)**

Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (* as a % of traded value)

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
12/09	EU	Sentix Behavioral Indices	Sentix Investor Confidence	Dec	0.7	-5.3	-4.5
12/09	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	Trade Balance	Oct	21.5bn	19.3bn	21.1bn
12/09	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	Current Account Balance	Oct	22.7bn	20.0bn	24.9bn
12/09	Germany	Deutsche Bundesbank	Exports SA MoM	Oct	1.2%	-0.3%	1.5%
12/09	Germany	Deutsche Bundesbank	Imports SA MoM	Oct	0.0%	-0.1%	1.3%
12/09	Japan	Economic and Social Research Institute	GDP SA QoQ	3Q2019	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%
12/09	Japan	Economic and Social Research Institute	GDP Annualized SA QoQ	3Q2019	1.8%	0.6%	0.2%
12/09	Japan	Economic and Social Research Institute	GDP Nominal SA QoQ	3Q2019	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%
12/09	Japan	Ministry of Finance Japan	Trade Balance BoP Basis	Oct	¥254.0bn	¥138.8bn	¥1.1bn

Source: Bloomberg (s.a. = seasonally adjusted; n.s.a. = non-seasonally adjusted; w.d.a. = working day adjusted)

News

Qatar

- **Prohibition of market orders during the pre-opening phase of Baladna Company on its first day of trading –** Qatar Stock Exchange hereby informed all brokers and investors that market price and un-priced orders must not be entered into the trading system during the preopening of Baladna Company (BLDN) from 8:30 to 09:30 on its first day of trading, December 11, 2019. The sector under which "Baladna" was listed is modified from " Industry" to "Consumer Goods & Services". (QSE)
- **SIIS' board holds a meeting on December 29 to study some potential investment opportunities –** Salam International Investment Limited's (SIIS) board will hold a meeting on December 29, 2019 to study some potential investment opportunities and follow up the execution of previous resolutions. (QSE)
- **Doha Bank plans to borrow as much as $500mn in early 2020 –** Doha Bank to raise between $300mn and $500mn in the first half of 2020, according to Doha Bank's CEO, Raghavan Seetharaman. The CEO said, "$500mn is what we should target subject to regulatory approval." Cost to income ratio could fall to 30% next year versus 33%-34% currently. (Bloomberg)
- **Vodafone Qatar launches 'Ready Network SDN' to power digital innovation for business –** Vodafone Qatar is offering businesses an increased level of agility, control, and efficiency with the launch of Ready Network, a new software-defined network (SDN) product portfolio to power the future of business in Qatar. Ready Network – SDN (or software-defined networking) addresses the challenges posed by today's complex and expensive networking environments. Unlike traditional networks, which require each element to be configured manually to do a task, with SDN, the network is configured centrally. Changes can therefore be automated and done quickly, enabling businesses to innovate more easily and efficiently through a self-serve portal in response to new business and application demands. Businesses that adopt Vodafone's Ready Network – SDN product solutions stand to benefit from reduced complexity and increased control over communications. The technology intelligently manages an organization's entire network, across multiple locations through different access technology options and provides more choices and flexibility resulting in the best experience and service level. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Ooredoo launches new shop at Msheireb Metro Station –** Ooredoo has extended its consumer retail network with the

opening of a new shop at Msheireb Metro Station, the main station of Doha Metro. The new shop is Ooredoo's first at a metro station and offers one of its high-tech self-service machines which have been installed as part of a planned roll-out of SSMs at metro stations in Doha. (Qatar Tribune)

- **Qatar Airways to take 60% stake in new Rwandan international airport –** Qatar Airways has agreed to take 60% stake in a new $1.3bn international airport in Rwanda, the state-run Rwanda Development Board stated on Monday. The board stated a first phase of construction would provide facilities for 7mn passengers a year in the Bugesera district, about 25 kilometer south east of the capital Kigali. A second phase, expected to be completed by 2032, would double capacity to 14mn passengers a year. The country's infrastructure minister Claver Gatete told a news conference that a construction company was still being sought to build the airport, and that once work starts, the first phase would take five years to complete. (Reuters)
- **New reforms, streamlined policies to make doing business in Qatar easier –** The government has undertaken several legal reforms and policies to streamline procedures and regulations to ensure further ease of doing business in Qatar, it was announced at the "Forum for Improving the Business Environment in the State of Qatar" held in Doha yesterday. Khamis Al-Mohannadi, the Chairman of the Technical Committee for the Motivation and Participation of the Private Sector in Economic Development Projects, stressed that Qatar has succeeded in establishing itself as one of the strongest regional economies and among the most promising economies in the world in terms of competitiveness and growth despite the economic blockade. Speaking at the Improving Qatar's Business Environment Forum in Doha, Khamis Al Mohannadi, Head of the committee, said many initiatives like awarding projects to private sector under the public-private partnership (PPP) model, introduction of single window system and new laws to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are being taken to boost private sector in the country. (Gulf-Times.com, Qatar Tribune)
- **Legislations helped boost competition, prevent monopoly, says Qatar Chamber's Chairman –** The economic laws and legislations issued within the past few years contributed to the enhancement of Qatar's investment climate, and helped transform the State into a global centre for trade and investment, a Qatar Chamber official has said. Qatar Chamber's Chairman, Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani, who is also head of the Committee to Protect Competition and Prevent Monopolistic Practices, stressed that Qatar is keen on enhancing competitiveness and preventing monopoly in commercial activities. On the sidelines of the '2019 Global Forum on Competition' held recently in Paris, Sheikh Khalifa said Qatar issued in 2006 a law on the protection of economic competition and prevention of monopoly to provide an appropriate legislative environment for economic developments and provide a mechanism to curb monopoly. It also encourages free trade and integration in the global market, as well as upgrading domestic trade policies and systems with the aim to ensure the competition and prevent monopoly. (Gulf-Times.com)

International

- **NY Fed: US consumer inflation expectations rebound from five-year low –** US consumers' inflation expectations rose slightly in November, bringing the outlook for near and medium-term inflation up from a five-year low in a New York Federal Reserve (NY Fed) survey, potentially offering relief to policymakers worried about sagging inflation. The median outlook for what inflation will be over the next three years rose by 0.1 percentage point to 2.5%, the survey found. Expectations for inflation over the next 12 months rose slightly by 0.02 percentage point to 2.4%. In October, both inflation outlooks were at a series low for the survey, which began in 2013. Fed officials lowered interest rates three times this year in an effort to immunize the US economy from the potential risks posed by a global slowdown, a prolonged trade war with China and a slump in business investment. Since the last rate reduction, several policymakers have emphasized the risks of inflation being too low and signaled openness to letting inflation run above 2% to meet the Fed's symmetric inflation target. (Reuters)
- **Trump says doing well with China in putting together trade deal –** US President, Donald Trump on Monday said the US is doing well with China in hammering out a trade deal, as the clock ticks toward the levying of possible new tariffs on Chinese imports. US tariffs on several consumer products, including mobile phones and toys, are set to kick in on December 15, but there is hope the two countries can come to an agreement that either postpones or cancels them. (Reuters)
- **Surging exports lend a fillip to flagging German economy –** Germany's exports rose unexpectedly in October, with demand from beyond Europe offering a boost to the continent's largest economy, which has teetered on the brink of recession in recent quarters. Exports grew by 1.2%, statistics office data showed on Monday, defying analysts' predictions that it would shrink by 0.7%. That will raise hopes the manufacturing powerhouse can avoid contracting in the final quarter, despite a string of negative indicators in recent weeks. The surprise uptick was mirrored by the results of Sentix's survey of investor sentiment, which showed market participants cheered by strong demand from non-Japan Asia, driving their expectations for the German economy to their most positive level in almost two years. (Reuters)
- **Japan upgrades third quarter GDP as consumer, business strength absorbs hit from trade –** Japan's economy expanded at a much faster pace than initially reported in the third quarter, as resilient domestic demand and business spending offset the hit to growth from falling exports and global trade tensions. GDP grew an annualized 1.8% in July-September, stronger than the preliminary reading of 0.2% annualized growth, Cabinet Office data showed Monday. The firmer growth marked the fourth consecutive quarter of expansion and also beat economists' median forecast for a 0.7% gain. It was mostly driven by improvements in capital expenditure and private consumption. However, analysts said the third quarter strength, which was the weakest growth seen this year, masks some fragility that could to lead to a much weaker performance going forward. (Reuters)
- **Japan November service sector mood recovers slightly from storm, tax hit –** Japan's service sector sentiment improved slightly in November, recovering from a multi-year low hit in the previous month when a sales tax hike and a huge typhoon hit business morale. The survey of workers such as taxi drivers,

hotel workers and restaurant staff - called "economy watchers" for their proximity to consumer and retail trends - showed their confidence about current economic conditions rose 2.7 points to 39.4 from 36.7 in October. In October, Japan raised a twice-delayed sales tax to 10% from 8% while a powerful typhoon dented consumer sentiment and business activity, sending the sentiment index in the month to its lowest since May 2011. The outlook index, which indicates the level of confidence in future conditions, rose 2.0 points to 45.7 in November from 43.7 in October. (Reuters)

- **China's November producer prices fall for fifth month, CPI soars –** China's producer prices fell in annual terms for the fifth consecutive month in November while consumer prices spiked as food costs climbed, data showed on Tuesday, complicating policymakers' efforts to boost demand as economic growth slows. The producer price index (PPI), seen as a key indicator of corporate profitability, fell 1.4% on year, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) data showed, falling for the fifth month in a row. That compared with a 1.5% drop forecast in a Reuters poll and 1.6% fall in October. In contrast, consumer prices rose at their fastest pace in almost eight years, driven mostly by a surge in pork prices as African Swine Fever ravaged the country's hog herds. However, core inflation - which excludes food and energy prices - showed only modest pressure. The consumer price index rose 4.5% in November from a year earlier, the fastest pace seen since January 2012, beating analysts' expectations of 4.2% and October's 3.8% rise. (Reuters)

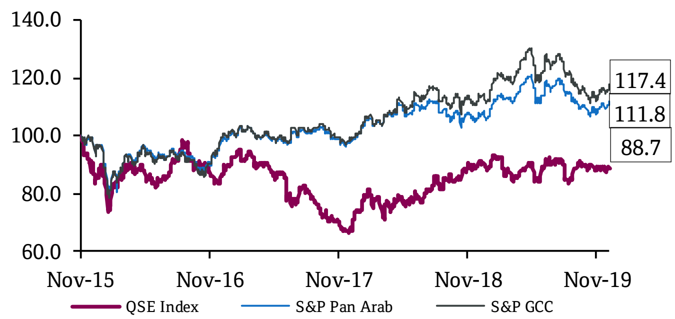
Regional

- **Saudi 2020 budget forecasts slight drop in spending as deficit widens –** Saudi Arabia announced SR1.02tn budget for 2020 on Monday, a slight fall in spending that reversed three years of expenditure increases intended to spur growth. Revenues in 2020 are forecast at SR833bn, widening the budget deficit to SR187bn, or 6.4% of GDP, compared with a projected deficit of SR131bn, or 4.7% of GDP, in 2019, according to the budget document. Finance Minister, Mohammed Al-Jadaan told reporters the 2020 budget was conservative on revenues because of the global economic outlook, however, the government would continue to pay a cost of living allowance to citizens. Saudi Arabia's state news agency SPA quoted Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman as saying, "The 2020 budget comes amid challenges, risks and protectionist policies facing the global economy, which requires flexibility in managing public finances." Allocations to so-called general items – including spending on government pensions, social insurance and subsidies – are forecast to increase to SR141bn next year from a projected SR121bn in 2019. Saudi Arabia stated that it expects inflation in 2020 to reach 2%, compared with an expected 1% fall in the consumer price index (CPI) this year, according to a budget statement. It foresees a deficit in 2021 of 5% of GDP and 2.9% in 2022. (Reuters)
- **Saudi Arabia will tap international and local bond markets in 2020 –** Saudi Arabia's Finance Minister, Mohammed Al-Jadaan said that Saudi Arabia would tap both the international and local bond markets in 2020 to help finance a budget shortfall that is expected to reach 6.4% of GDP from 4.7% this year. (Bloomberg)
- **Saudi Arabia's PIF leans toward spending Saudi Aramco's windfall locally –** Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, Public Investment Fund (PIF) expects to spend a lot of the $26bn proceeds from the sale of shares in Saudi Aramco in the domestic economy as it shifts focus toward high-impact local investments, Finance Minister, Mohammed Al Jadaan said. Asked how the PIF would use the windfall from the Saudi Aramco's IPO, he told Bloomberg in an interview that a lot of their allocation will go into the local economy, sectors that are promising, sectors that are large, require a large investment which the private sector cannot really invest on their own. While not the mega-sized offering initially outlined, the Saudi Aramco deal still gives the Kingdom's sovereign fund ammunition to help develop various projects around the country, including a futuristic new city called Neom that is expected to cost $500bn. Mohammed Al Jadaan, who sits on the board of the PIF and Saudi Aramco, said that the sovereign fund was in the process of reviewing how much it invests internationally against its domestic commitments. "They wanted to make sure that they spend where it matters. Most likely the preference will be more local than international, but they are continuing to be an important investor internationally," he said. (Bloomberg)
- **Saudi Aramco IPO proceeds rise to $29.4bn after option exercised –** The proceeds from Saudi Aramco's record IPO have risen to $29.4bn after the oil company exercised an option to sell 15% more stock, an executive at one of the banks leading the deal told Al Arabiya news channel said. Head of investment banking at the investment arm of National Commercial Bank, Wassim Al Khatib said that the state-controlled oil giant had exercised the so-called over-allotment option. Saudi Aramco's main IPO raised $25.6bn. "The final number of shares sold is 3.450bn shares, and the final value of the deal is $29.4bn," he said. Saudi Aramco is listing its shares on Wednesday on the Tadawul after completing the largest IPO on record. (Zawya)
- **Non-Saudi Arabian buyers got 23% of Saudi Aramco IPO institutional tranche –** Non-Saudi Arabian investors were allocated 23% of the institutional tranche of Saudi Aramco's IPO, an executive at one of the lead banks on the deal told the Al Arabiya news channel said. Head of investment banking at National Commercial Bank, Wassim Al Khatib also said the Saudi Public Pension Agency received an allocation equivalent to 11.5% of the Saudi Aramco IPO institutional tranche. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Aramco allocates $1bn shares for employee incentives –** The Saudi government's ownership in Saudi Aramco stands at 98.21%, as shown by the data of the Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul). Saudi Aramco offered 1.5% of its shares through an IPO, equivalent to 3bn shares, of which 2bn shares were set for institutions and another 1bn shares for individual investors through a retail offering. A Mubasher survey showed that the company has allocated 0.059% of its shares for employee incentives. The oil giant previously announced that the government will sell shares valued at $1bn (SR3.75bn) at the final price, to the company to use it in the incentives program. (Zawya)
- **Moody's Saudi Arabia's largest banks to maintain strong profitability –** Saudi Arabia's three largest banks, National Commercial Bank (NCB), Al Rajhi Bank and Saudi British Bank (SABB) will maintain strong profitability even as interest margins on their lending narrow because of falling interest rates, Moody's Investors Services (Moody's) stated. The three banks

have a combined market share of 47% of the country's banking assets. “SABB will be hardest hit because it must also absorb the costs of its merger with smaller peer Alawwal Bank, and NCB will face a similar pressure if its planned merger with Riyad Bank is completed,” Vice President -Senior Analyst at Moody's, Ashraf Madani said. Riyad Bank and NCB announced in 2018 that they had begun discussions about a potential merger. “Al Rajhi's retail focus will provide initial protection, however, prolonged low rates will take their toll. Nevertheless, sound efficiency and strong capital at all three banks will protect their credit profiles,” he added. According to the ratings agency, fee-based income will start to stabilize over the coming quarters as fees attached to rising consumer lending and mortgages offset lower trade and foreign-exchange income. Moody’s also expects NCB to maintain its lead as largest and most stable non-interest income. Large Saudi Arabian banks will maintain very efficient cost structures. SABB's corporate focus delivers the strongest efficiency, while both NCB and Al Rajhi carry the cost of larger branch networks to service their sizeable retail businesses, Moody’s stated. (Zawya)

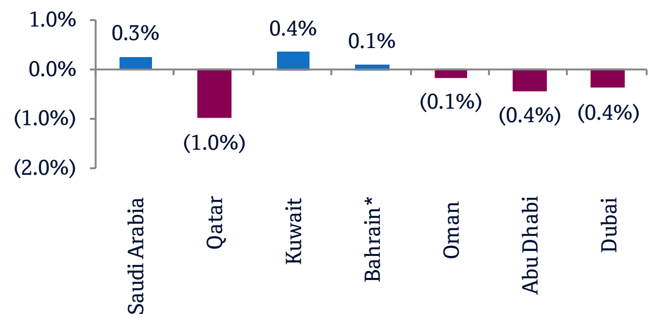
- **Almarai Company appoints new CEO –** Saudi Arabia’s Almarai Company has named Majed Mazen Nofal as its new Chief Executive Officer, replacing Georges P. Schorderet. The new CEO will assume position from January 1, 2020, Almarai Company stated. Nofal was appointed as Head of Central Procurement for Almarai Company in 2010 and served in that role for seven years. In 2017, he was appointed General Manager – New Businesses and served in this capacity until his appointment as Chief Financial Officer in April 2019. In July 2019, Nofal was appointed as Deputy CEO. (Zawya)
- **Dubai property demand is 'strong' –** Demand for Dubai's property remains pretty strong despite oversupply and demand-supply balance is likely to be achieved by 2022, senior industry officials said. Stressing that oversupply is a concern; however they rule out any slump in demand as approximately up to 30,000 units are said to be sold out in Dubai in 2019 alone. They believe that oversupply will continue beyond 2020, hence, curbs on supply over the next 12-18 months - not beyond that - will help bring balance on demand-supply front. “There will be no significant upside after Expo 2020 as property sector might just sustain itself over the next couple of years because supply will continue coming in beyond 2020. Projects that are being built right now will be handed over in 2021 and 2022,” Chief Operating Officer of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Gulf Properties, Dounia Fadi said. “So, until the gap between supply and demand comes closer, that is where prices will see recovery. Until then, they will remain under pressure till that time. I believe, supply-demand will balance in 2022,” she said. Chairman and CEO of DAMAC Properties, Hussain Sajwani said that he sees no slump in demand however, showed concern about oversupply. (Zawya)
- **CBO: Oman's economy contracted 1.9% in first half of 2019 –** Oman's economy contracted by 1.9% in nominal terms in the first half of the year as the non-oil sector shrank, the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) stated. The Gulf state's finances have been hurt by a slump in oil prices in recent years, however, the economic decline this year emanated from the non-petroleum industrial activities and services sector, the CBO stated. It said the non-hydrocarbon sector of the economy contracted 3.4% in nominal terms in January-June. The hydrocarbon sector grew 2.1% in the same period, with nominal GDP from crude oil and natural gas increasing by 1.5% and 5.6%, respectively, it said. Despite its access to financial markets it sold a $3bn bond in July - Oman's fiscal position remains weak and its debt is rated “junk” by rating agencies. The central bank told Reuters in September it expected real GDP growth of 1.1% this year, down from an estimated 2.2% last year. (Zawya)
- **Oman LNG may add new onshore or floating plant to boost cargos –** Oman LNG is considering building a new liquefied natural gas train or a floating facility to boost shipments, according to CEO, Harib Al Kitani. “We will only do that when we know there is enough upstream gas for this,” he said, and expects the oil ministry to advise on the volume of gas available for Oman LNG by the end of next year. Oman LNG ramped up production since October as it began de-bottlenecking; company plans 3-4 extra cargos next year. Oman LNG expects production of 10.2 mt in 2019, 11 mt in 2020, will plateau in late 2021. Oman LNG’s concession runs until 2025, the government will then consider options including taking hold of 100% of the concession, maintaining the same shareholders, changing shareholders, or selling shares to the public. (Bloomberg)
- **Central Bank of Bahrain's new liquidity management tool aims to promote Islamic banking –** The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has launched a new liquidity management tool for Islamic retail banks to promote the development of Islamic banking in the Kingdom. The tool based on the “Single Binding Wa’ad based structure” is developed by the International Islamic Financial Market (IIFM) and International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) and represents a Shari’ah-compliant alternative to Foreign Exchange Forward contracts. The single binding Wa'ad based structure involves one party who is looking for a hedge to purchase a specified currency at a future date based on the rate determined today, providing a binding Wa'ad (promise/undertaking) to purchase such currency. The CBB emphasizes that providing such a Shari’ah-compliant product will contribute to the diversification of Islamic investment opportunities and enhances the Kingdom’s position as a financial center for Islamic banking, a statement from the Central Bank stated. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg (*Data as of December 08, 2019)

Asset/Currency Performance	Close ($)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,461.62	0.1	0.1	14.0
Silver/Ounce	16.61	0.2	0.2	7.2
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	64.25	(0.2)	(0.2)	19.4
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	59.02	(0.3)	(0.3)	30.0
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.17	(5.7)	(5.7)	(31.9)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	51.13	(0.7)	(0.7)	(20.1)
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	68.00	(0.4)	(0.4)	(2.2)
Euro	1.11	0.0	0.0	(3.5)
Yen	108.56	(0.0)	(0.0)	(1.0)
GBP	1.31	0.1	0.1	3.1
CHF	1.01	0.3	0.3	(0.6)
AUD	0.68	(0.3)	(0.3)	(3.2)
USD Index	97.64	(0.1)	(0.1)	1.5
RUB	63.58	(0.3)	(0.3)	(8.8)
BRL	0.24	(0.0)	(0.0)	(6.3)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	2,292.58	(0.2)	(0.2)	21.7
DJ Industrial	27,909.60	(0.4)	(0.4)	19.6
S&P 500	3,135.96	(0.3)	(0.3)	25.1
NASDAQ 100	8,621.83	(0.4)	(0.4)	29.9
STOXX 600	406.39	(0.2)	(0.2)	16.2
DAX	13,105.61	(0.4)	(0.4)	20.0
FTSE 100	7,233.90	0.0	0.0	10.9
CAC 40	5,837.25	(0.6)	(0.6)	19.1
Nikkei	23,430.70	0.3	0.3	18.9
MSCI EM	1,051.11	0.2	0.2	8.8
SHANGHAI SE Composite	2,914.48	0.0	0.0	14.2
HANG SENG	26,494.73	(0.0)	(0.0)	2.6
BSE SENSEX	40,487.43	0.5	0.5	10.2
Bovespa	110,977.20	0.4	0.4	18.2
RTS	1,456.79	0.6	0.6	36.3

Source: Bloomberg (*$ adjusted returns)

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