KAMCO

GCC Markets Monthly Report

GCC markets see biggest monthly decline in eleven years on falling crude and Covid-19...

GCC equity markets saw severe selling pressure during March-2020 led by two-decades low crude oil prices in addition to the Covid-19 pandemic that pushed markets to the lowest level in more than a decade. The market witnessed one of the biggest daily declines at the start of March-2020 after OPEC+ producers failed to reach an agreement over oil production cuts. This exacerbated the negative investor sentiment that was already battered due to the rising Covid-19 cases. The MSCI GCC index declined by almost 17.2% in March-2020 after each of the GCC markets saw double digit declines during the month.

In this Report ...

Kuwait	2
Saudi Arabia	3
Abu Dhabi	4
Dubai	5
Qatar	6
Bahrain	7
Oman	8

UAE was the worst performing market during the month with DFM witnessing the steepest monthly decline of 31.6% to reach the lowest level since the start of 2013. ADX was the second-biggest monthly decliner with a fall of 23.8%. In terms of YTD-2020 performance, UAE markets once again were the biggest decliners with DFM and ADX witnessing declines of 35.9% and 26.4%, respectively. In terms of sector performance, consumer sectors remained relatively resilient to the selling pressure with the Consumer Non-cyclical sector, including the Food & Beverage sector, seeing the smallest low-single digit monthly declines. On the other hand, the Financial Services and Consumer Cyclical sectors witnessed the biggest monthly declines of 23.7% and 21.8%, respectively. Banking stocks have also declined by 19.2% MTD and 24.3% since the start of the year.

Global markets went into free fall as it dealt with the Covid-19 pandemic in Italy, Spain and the US. The MSCI World index witnessed the biggest daily decline since inception on 12-March-2020 with a singleday fall of 9.9%, marking the end of the 11-year bull run since the financial crisis. Governments came to rescue the markets with financial aid and record rate cuts, but saw only minimal impact as seen from the 13.5% monthly decline for the MSCI World index and 15.6% decline in Emerging Market index.



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Investment Strategy & Research

Boursa Kuwait

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
Premier Market Index	6,047.3	6,242.2	6,377.0	6,744.1	6,527.8	6,174.8	6,211.1	6,519.4	6,976.0	7,033.5	6,730.2	5,198.7
Monthly % Change	1.0%	3.2%	2.2%	5.8%	(3.2%)	(5.4%)	0.6%	5.0%	7.0%	0.8%	(4.3%)	(22.8%)
Main Market Index	4,828.8	4,736.6	4,766.5	4,881.6	4,789.4	4,713.8	4,757.9	4,767.0	4,910.7	4,922.3	4,769.3	4,083.1
Monthly % Change	(1.8%)	(1.9%)	0.6%	2.4%	(1.9%)	(1.6%)	0.9%	0.2%	3.0%	0.2%	(3.1%)	(14.4%)
All Share Market Index	5,630.0	5,731.7	5,832.1	6,116.7	5,941.1	5,678.7	5,717.3	5,928.3	6,282.5	6,325.0	6,072.1	4,822.7
Monthly % Change	0.2%	1.8%	1.8%	4.9%	(2.9%)	(4.4%)	0.7%	3.7%	6.0%	0.7%	(4.0%)	(20.6%)
Thomson Reuters Kuwait TRI	247.0	254.3	259.1	271.9	263.0	249.9	251.6	262.0	276.7	279.4	266.9	213.9
Monthly % Change	2.9%	2.9%	1.9%	4.9%	(3.3%)	(5.0%)	0.6%	4.2%	5.6%	1.0%	(4.5%)	(19.8%)
Market Cap (KWD Mn)	32,369	33,083	33,664	35,399	34,380	32,862	33,081	34,285	36,345	36,613	35,156	27,754
P/E (X) - TTM	15.50	15.60	15.83	16.60	16.20	15.50	15.60	16.10	16.80	16.90	16.20	12.80
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.36	1.41	1.44	1.51	1.44	1.38	1.39	1.44	1.49	1.50	1.44	1.14
Dividend Yield (%)	3.79%	3.65%	3.59%	3.42%	3.52%	3.69%	3.68%	3.55%	3.35%	3.46%	3.06%	3.90%
Volume (Mn Shares)	3,643.3	2,264.3	2,630.3	4,682.6	2,587.2	3,113.0	2,924.1	2,981.0	4,099.3	4,217.4	3,713.5	4,035.2
Value (KD Mn)	702.7	617.2	660.2	979.0	490.3	749.9	503.8	514.1	853.5	869.5	522.3	986.8
Trades ('000)	141.8	112.9	108.1	180.3	108.5	139.2	122.7	122.4	176.1	160.8	139.4	239.3

Source: Boursa Kuwait, Kamco Invest Research

Kuwaiti benchmarks trended downward during March-2020 in line with the rest of the GCC and global markets but the decline was mainly due to the fall in crude oil prices. The decline in Kuwait was largely broad-based but focused on large-cap stocks. As a result, the Kuwait Premier Market index declined by 22.8% during the month while the Main Market index declined by 14.4%. The net impact on the All Share index was a decline of 20.6%. The newly introduced Main 50 Index also witnessed a decline of 18.9% during the month. The declines during March-2020 further lowered YTD-2020 performance with the Premier Market index declining by 25.5% and the All Share Index falling by 23.2%.

In terms of sector performance, the Consumer Goods index was the only positive performing sector during the month with a monthly return of 2.2%. Three out of four stocks in the sector recorded gains during the month that was partially offset by 23.5% decline in shares of Danah Alsafat Foodstuff. On the other hand, the Consumer Services index witnessed the biggest monthly decline of 28.0% as all the stocks in the sector declined. The Basic Materials index was next with a decline of 24.2% followed by Industrials and Bank indices with declines of 24.2% and 23.0%, respectively. In the Banking sector, shares of all the Kuwaiti banks witnessed a decline during the month with the exception of CBK that closed flat.

Trading activity on the exchange improved as compared to the previous month. The volume of shares traded increased by 8.7% to reach 4.0 Bn shares while value traded surged 88.9% to reach KWD 987 Mn. The difference between value and volume traded shows significantly more trades in large-cap stocks as compared to the previous month. On the monthly volume chart, AUB Bahrain topped with 487.7 Mn shares traded followed by Investors Holding Group and KFH with 433.8 Mn shares and 365.3 Mn shares, respectively. On the monthly value traded chart, KFH topped with KWD 231.9 Mn worth of shares changing hands during the month followed by NBK and AUB Bahrain at KWD 199.6 Mn and KWD 119.7 Mn, respectively.

The monthly gainer's chart was topped by Tamdeen Investment with a gain of 29.0%. The company proposed a divided of 12 fils per share despite reporting a loss in its Q4-19 results. Tahsillat was next on the gainers chart with a gain of 20% followed by Warba Insurance and Osoul Investment with gains of 18.1% and 9.8%, respectively. On the decliners side, First Dubai Real Estate and Salbookh Trading topped with declines of 33.6%, followed by KGL Transport and GFH Financial Group with declines of 33.3% and 32.3%, respectively. The monthly market breadth was heavily skewed towards decliners that included 134 stocks as compared to 15 gainers.



GCC Equity Markets Monthly

Saudi Arabia (Tadawul)

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
Tadawul All Share Index	9,304.2	8,516.5	8,821.8	8,732.6	8,019.8	8,091.8	7,744.1	7,859.1	8,389.2	8,246.6	7,628.3	6,505.4
Monthly % Change	5.5%	(8.5%)	3.6%	(1.0%)	(8.2%)	0.9%	(4.3%)	1.5%	6.7%	(1.7%)	(7.5%)	(14.7%)
Market Cap (SAR Bn)	2,182.7	1,989.8	1,989.8	2,024.2	1,873.7	1,881.0	1,790.7	1,812.9	8,992.0	8,748.9	8,424.9	7,562.0
P/E (X) - TTM	18.75	17.12	17.62	17.91	17.14	17.28	16.33	16.37	17.89	18.18	17.33	15.11
P/BV (X) - TTM	2.09	1.93	2.01	2.01	1.85	1.87	1.78	1.81	2.12	2.09	1.89	1.58
Dividend Yield (%)	3.21%	3.44%	3.40%	3.44%	3.76%	3.74%	3.90%	3.86%	3.23%	3.29%	3.53%	4.16%
Volume (Mn Shares)	2,905.4	3,525.0	2,689.4	2,528.4	2,563.1	2,536.0	2,456.2	2,225.4	4,306.1	3,708.6	2,890.3	9,539.7
Value (SAR Mn)	77,232.8	109,967.1	74,796.3	65,156.3	78,720.1	64,757.5	61,661.3	57,890.8	112,992.9	84,379.6	71,603.9	116,932.8
Trades ('000)	2,412	2,479	1,858	2,262	2,119	2,318	2,537	2,173	3,740	3,750	3,271	5,167

Source: Tadawul, Kamco Invest Research. Note: Trading data includes stocks in the Main Market.

Saudi Arabian equity market declined for the third consecutive month during March-2020 amid volatile trade as investor sentiment got battered due to the oil price crash as well as the rising Covid-19 cases. TASI went below the 6,000 mark during mid-month to reach 5,959.69 points, the lowest level since Oct-2016, but recovered by almost 10% during the second half of the month and closed slightly above the 6,500 mark at 6,505.4 points. This resulted in a monthly decline of 14.7%, the highest in 55 months, that further pushed YTD-2020 decline to 22.5%. Trading activity on the exchange witnessed a significant increase led by heavy selling during the month. The volume of shares traded during March-2020 increased more than 3x to reach 9.5 Bn shares as compared to 2.89 Bn shares during the previous month. The value of shares traded increased by 63.3% to reach SAR 116.9 Bn in March-2020 as compared to SAR 71.6 Bn during February-2020.

It was a broad-based decline for the market as a majority of the sectoral indices declined during the month. The only sectors that outperformed were from the consumer facing non-cyclical industries. The Food & Staples Retailing sector witnessed positive returns of 10.8% followed by Telecom and Food & Beverage indices with positive returns of 2.9% and 1.4%, respectively. On the decliners side, the Capital Goods index witnessed the biggest monthly decline of 27.2% followed by the Transportation and Consumer Services indices with declines of 26.1% and 24.3%, respectively. Large-cap sector like Banks also declined by 20% but the decline in Energy index was relatively small at 8.4%.

The monthly gainers chart was topped by Wataniya Insurance that recorded a gain of 42.5% that came after the company reported 17% increase in net profit for FY-2019 that reached SAR 23.8 Mn. The increase in profits came on the back of increase in unrealized gain on investments and higher commission income on deposits. National Shipping Co. was next on the gainers chart with a 15.0% return followed by Abdullah Al Othaim and Savola Group with gains of 12.2% and 6.7%, respectively.

On the economic front, Saudi Arabia announced a stimulus package of USD 32 Bn to tackle with the Covid-19 crisis. This includes a SAR 50 Bn plan to rescue banks and SMEs, whereas SAR 70 Bn would be set aside to help businesses with measures including exemptions and postponement of some government fees and taxes. The Kingdom's Finance Minister said that they would tap the bonds market to finance fiscal deficit that is expected to widen to 7%-9% of the GDP by the end of the year. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia is said to be increasing oil exports by around 0.6 mb/d to 10.6 mb/d starting from May-2020. According to the ministry official, the increase in planned exports came after natural gas replaced crude burning at the Al-Fadhli gas plant for generating electricity as well as due to lower transportation consumption of fuel in the domestic market owing to the Covid-19 led lockdown. In a key development, a Reuters report said a that US-Saudi alliance on oil production was being discussed recently, although it has been put on hold. Such a plan would have faced with anti trust laws in the US as a majority of the oil companies are private, but in order to save the companies from bankruptcy and to avoid large scale layoffs, the alliance may take some form. Meanwhile,



GCC Equity Markets Monthly

Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
ADX General Index	5,258.1	5,003.6	4,980.0	5,317.9	5,165.6	5,057.3	5,107.8	5,030.8	5,075.8	5,156.2	4,901.4	3,734.7
Monthly % Change	3.6%	(4.8%)	(0.5%)	6.8%	(2.9%)	(2.1%)	1.0%	(1.5%)	0.9%	1.6%	(4.9%)	(23.8%)
Market Cap (AED Bn)	547.5	498.7	510.6	542.9	530.2	525.0	525.9	519.2	529.1	559.9	535.3	431.8
P/E (X) - TTM	13.29	12.66	12.69	13.53	13.10	12.72	12.85	12.77	12.85	13.17	12.39	9.44
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.41	1.38	1.38	1.48	1.44	1.41	1.43	1.40	1.42	1.35	1.27	0.96
Dividend Yield (%)	4.76%	4.99%	4.98%	4.67%	4.87%	4.97%	4.94%	5.00%	4.95%	4.81%	5.08%	6.55%
Volume (Mn Shares)	1,467.4	921.7	677.9	1,378.2	984.5	956.2	842.7	874.0	1,578.7	657.7	886.1	1,705.4
Value (AED Mn)	5,092.2	3,801.0	3,446.9	4,017.1	3,240.7	3,394.0	2,663.3	3,436.5	10,907.2	2,455.8	2,983.3	4,623.7
Trades	36,226	36,212	26,310	33,745	32,103	34,016	30,702	29,132	25,376	23,279	28,487	52,789

Source: Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, Kamco Invest Research

The ADX index fell by 23.8% m-o-m in Mar-2020, as a result of the global and regional selloff. The index closed at 3734.68 points at the end of the month, as all sectors closed in the red. Banks and Real Estate were the worst affected as they plunged by 30.3% and 26.5% respectively. ADCB and Commercial Bank International were the laggards in the banking index as their share prices dropped by 35.1% and 32.7% respectively, followed by 32.6% respectively. Aldar dropped by 27.4% for the month and dragged the Real Estate index downwards. Energy and Industrials indices also fell by 23.1% and 21% respectively as Industrials name Abu Dhabi Ship Building fell by almost 40%, while Dana Gas was the worst performing stock in the Energy index. Insurance names witnessed gainers in Mar-2020, as RAK National Insurance and Union Insurance gained by 14.8% and 7.7% respectively, which offset other declines and led the index to close marginally lower (-1.6% m-o-m), as compared to significant declines in other sectors. The Abu Dhabi Executive Council announced stimulus measures alongside the AED 100 Bn support package, launched by the UAE Central Bank. The stimulus measures fast-tracks the implementation of key Ghadan 21 economic initiatives to support economic activity, reduce the costs of living, and facilitate business in Abu Dhabi.

In full year 2019 earnings, TAQA reported revenues of AED 17.6 Bn, a 1% y-o-y decrease as compared to 2018. Key drivers were the Group's Oil & Gas business which saw a 4% y-o-y decrease in revenues. Despite overall production levels marginally having increased, lower average oil and gas prices during 2019 drove revenues lower. Group EBITDA came in at AED 9.1 Bn for 2019, which was AED 521 Mn lower than 2018. Net profit to equity holders of TAQA for 2019 was AED 234 million as compared to AED 398 million in the prior year. Separately, Aldar further announced programs worth AED 100 Mn aimed at supporting its residents, tenants, customers and partners. RAK bank mentioned that for individual customers the Bank will provide payment deferrals of up to 3 months on auto loans and personal loans for COVID-19 impacted salaried and self-employed individuals without any charges. They also mentioned that credit cardholders will be given a choice to defer card payments for one month without any deferral charges, while customers will be given an option to convert education and electronic spends on their conventional credit cards into an Easy Payment Plan (EPP) option at 0% interest and zero processing fee for upto 24 months.

RAK National Insurance. topped the monthly gainers chart, with a gain of 14.8% m-o-m followed by Finance House and Umm Al Qaiwain General Insurance with gains of 9.7% and 8.9% respectively. On the decliners side, the top worst performing companies were Abu Dhabi Ship Building and Eshraq Investments with declines of 39.8% and 36.5%, respectively. Trading activity on the exchanged jumped m-o-m in Mar-2020, as volumes traded moved by over 92% to 1.7 Bn shares. Value traded also jumped by 55% m-o-m to reach AED 4.6 Bn during Mar-2020. In terms of most actively traded stocks, FAB led all stocks in terms of value traded, with AED 1.23 Bn worth of shares traded during Mar-2020. Aldar and ADCB followed as AED 797 Mn and AED 726 Mn worth of shares were traded respectively. Aldar led the most active stocks list in terms of volumes traded, as 482.7 Mn shares were traded. Dana Gas and Eshraq Investments followed with 255.6 Mn and 212.5 Mn shares traded during Mar-2020.



GCC Equity Markets Monthly

Dubai Financial Market

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
DFM General Index	2,767.1	2,620.3	2,658.6	2,918.4	2,758.6	2,781.1	2,746.9	2,678.7	2,764.9	2,790.4	2,590.0	1,771.3
Monthly % Change	5.0%	(5.3%)	1.5%	9.8%	(5.5%)	0.8%	(1.2%)	(2.5%)	3.2%	0.9%	(7.2%)	(31.6%)
Market Cap (AED Bn)	359.4	343.3	347.7	371.6	357.3	361.2	359.0	351.0	359.9	381.1	363.4	266.2
P/E (X) - TTM	7.56	7.26	7.29	7.87	7.56	7.26	6.82	6.57	6.76	6.93	6.59	4.34
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.94	0.90	0.91	0.97	0.92	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.93	0.92	0.83	0.54
Dividend Yield (%)	4.59%	4.84%	4.77%	4.33%	4.43%	4.40%	4.49%	4.43%	4.31%	4.25%	4.81%	7.24%
Volume (Mn Shares)	4,221.2	3,222.4	2,200.7	3,814.1	2,281.1	3,166.0	4,462.3	3,249.9	3,162.9	2,912.1	2,746.3	6,070.5
Value (AED Mn)	5,821.9	4,075.6	2,838.3	4,990.5	2,886.8	5,270.5	4,423.8	4,865.5	4,173.8	3,968.5	3,887.3	6,367.5
Trades	65,625	62,391	45,095	63,397	45,792	51,127	62,712	60,225	47,868	48,434	49,137	95,806

Source: Dubai Financial Market, Kamco Invest Research

The DFM index was the worst performing index in the GCC in Mar-2020 and came under severe selling pressure after falling by 7.2% in Feb -2020. The DFM index fell by 31.6% m-o-m and closed at 1771.31 points. Sectoral performance was negative as all sectors plunged by double digits in percentage terms. Similar to trends witnessed on the ADX index, Banks and Real Estate & Construction indices were the worst hit as they declined by 34.5% each. Consumer Staples & Discretionary was also down by 30.2% m-o-m. The government of Dubai launched an AED 1.5 Bn economic stimulus package for the next three months aimed at supporting companies and the business sector. A stimulus package was announced for its free zones within a five-point-plan which includes postponing rent payments for six months, payment instalments, refund of security deposits and guarantees, fine cancellations for both companies and individuals; and temporary contracts that allow the free movement of labour between companies operating in the free zones for the rest of the year.

The postponement of Dubai Expo 2020 by one year which is pending approval from BIE's General Assembly is expected to come as a relief for both international participants and the UAE, given the current uncertainties attached with the spread of Covid-19 globally. The postponement will help in ensuring that the full benefits of the event is realized as it gives adequate time for the UAE to recover and prepare for the event, while global participants will feel more optimistic about international travel. It will enable corporates, who are directly involved in the Dubai Expo as either sponsors, financial institutions or companies that are awarded projects, to focus on reviving their business activities from the impact of the pandemic. For equities, this should help investors to now look beyond 2020, and focus on companies that could realize full potential 2021 revenues and profitability. In ratings action, S&P Global Ratings downgraded DAMAC Properties to B from B+ and placed the BBB-(minus) ratings of Emaar Properties and Emaar Malls on credit watch with negative implications. It also lowered its outlook on DIFC Investments, to 'negative' from 'stable'. S&P reportedly expects the fall in residential prices will be steeper than we previously expected, with adverse trends lingering well into 2021. DAMAC reported that results had swung to a net loss of AED 36.9 Mn in 2019 from a net profit of AED 1.15 Bn in 2018. S&P mentioned that despite its negative outlook, the company's liquidity remained "adequate", with USD 115 million in debt due this year and no other major debt maturities until 2022.

In terms of trading activity, the DFM witnessed a jump on all major indicators, as volumes traded more than doubled by 121.7% m-o-m to reach 6.07 Bn shares. In terms of value traded, total value of shares increased by 63.8% m-o-m to reach AED 6.4 Bn. In terms of monthly gainers, Gulfa Mineral Water & Process led all stocks as its stock price was up 137.3% in Mar-2020. Takaful Emarat and Al Salam Bank Sudan followed, as their stock prices moved up by 18.6% and 13.8% respectively. On the other hand, shares of Shuaa Capital declined the most as its share price declined by 45.7% m-o-m. Amlak Finance and Emirates NBD followed with declines of 42.9% and 42.4% respectively for the month. DIB was the most actively traded stock on the exchange as AED 1.45 Bn worth of stock was traded. Emaar Properties and Emirates NBD followed with value traded of AED 1.3 Bn and AED 0.86 Bn respectively. In terms of volumes, Union Properties led all stocks as 1.16 Bn shares were traded. Deyaar Development and GFH followed as 517 Mn and 513 Mn shares were traded.



GCC Equity Markets Monthly

Qatar Exchange

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
QE 20 Index	10,376.8	10,273.0	10,455.7	10,505.0	10,232.9	10,367.1	10,189.0	10,147.9	10,425.5	10,442.0	9,490.1	8,207.2
Monthly % Change	2.7%	(1.0%)	1.8%	0.5%	(2.6%)	1.3%	(1.7%)	(0.4%)	2.7%	0.2%	(9.1%)	(13.5%)
Market Cap (QAR Bn)	584.4	568.1	577.6	578.1	564.2	574.8	563.4	562.2	582.7	579.5	526.0	460.5
P/E (X) - TTM	14.24	13.68	13.92	13.88	13.84	14.05	13.77	13.74	14.18	14.05	13.12	11.51
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.34	1.29	1.31	1.31	1.27	1.29	1.39	1.39	1.44	1.39	1.25	1.10
Dividend Yield (%)	3.87%	4.03%	3.96%	3.96%	4.08%	4.02%	4.15%	4.16%	4.02%	4.03%	4.14%	4.67%
Volume (Mn Shares)	283.2	439.5	672.0	1,282.1	1,239.7	2,343.5	1,614.2	1,412.0	1,507.5	1,730.4	1,557.9	3,061.7
Value (QAR Mn)	5,484.8	10,299.7	5,468.2	3,784.8	4,083.5	6,021.3	4,711.0	5,238.8	4,822.4	4,669.1	4,527.9	8,227.3
Trades	120,178	194,051	121,014	109,728	118,906	147,557	111,539	116,733	122,888	101,454	120,366	202,954

Source: Qatar Exchange, Kamco Invest Research

After ending Feb-2020 as the worst affected market in the GCC, Qatar witnessed the lowest declines in the region in Mar-2020, as the QE-20 index declined by 13.5% m-o-m. The Qatar All Share index which maps the broader market declined by 11.0%, although all sectors closed in the red for the month. The Insurance and Industrials indices were the worst performers as they plunged by 18.3% and 17.1% m-o -m. Banks & Financial Services and Real Estate which were one of the worst affected sectors in some of the other GCC markets witnessed lower declines of 9.6% and 7.9% respectively. The only two companies to marginally close in the green were Qatar Cinema & Film Distributing and Al Ahli Bank with gains of around 0.5%. In terms of stimulus measures Qatar decided to inject a QAR 75 Bn stimulus package into the private sector. Further, the Supreme Committee also directed Qatar Development Bank (QDB) to postpone the installments of all borrowers for a period of six months, while government funds were asked to increase their investments in Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) by QAR 10 Bn.

Qatar exchange mentioned that 46 companies listed on the exchange out of 47 listed companies disclosed their annual financial results for 2019, and the net profits for that period amounted to QAR 38.57 Bn as compared to QAR 40.82 Bn for 2018 representing a y-o-y decline of 5.53%. It was mentioned that for Baladna company, its financial disclosure will be in conjunction with the results for the first quarter of 2020. Separately, QNB Group recently became a constituent of the FTSE4Good Index Series following a detailed review of its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) business practices. Moreover, it was reported that as part of its commitment to sustainable development, QNB Group joined the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative, promoting better business practices in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Also, S&P Global Ratings affirmed Qatar's long- and short-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit ratings on Qatar at 'AA-/A-1+'. The outlook on the long-term rating is stable as S&P mentioned that Qatar's government and external balance sheets currently remain strong and provide a buffer to withstand external shocks.

Trading activity on the index jumped significantly m-o-m, as value traded during Mar-2020 went up by over 81% to reach QAR 8.23 Bn, while traded volumes went up by over 96% m-o-m to reach 3.06 Bn shares. In terms of trading activity, QNB topped the monthly value traded chart with QAR 1.74 Bn worth of shares traded, followed by Masraf Al Rayan and Qatar Fuel recording QAR 876 Mn and QAR 657 Mn in monthly value traded. In terms of volumes traded, Ezdan Holding led all stocks with traded volumes of 511.6 Mn shares. United Development and Al Salam International followed with traded volumes of 272.7 Mn shares and 232.5 Mn shares respectively. Al Ahli Bank was the top performing stock in the index for the month as its share price improved by 0.5%. Qatar Cinema & Film followed with marginally lower gains of 0.45%. On the other hand, shares of Al Salam International led the monthly losers chart losing 45.3% m-o-m. Qatar German for Medical Devices and Industries Qatar followed with declines of 27.3% and 26.0% for the month.



Bahrain Bourse

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
Bahrain All Share Index	1,433.92	1,433.52	1,471.04	1,547.68	1,533.09	1,516.53	1,523.27	1,526.95	1,610.18	1,657.63	1,660.48	1,350.62
Monthly % Change	1.5%	(0.0%)	2.6%	5.2%	(0.9%)	(1.1%)	0.4%	0.2%	5.5%	2.9%	0.2%	(18.7%)
Market Cap (BHD Mn)	8,168	8,176	8,400	8,837	8,751	8,661	8,695	8,708	9,175	9,679	9,710	7,777
P/E (X) - TTM	9.41	10.27	10.60	11.22	11.30	10.15	10.26	10.44	11.09	11.38	12.50	10.18
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.84	0.85	0.88	0.93	0.92	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.95	0.97	0.95	0.75
Dividend Yield (%)	5.06%	5.08%	4.93%	4.54%	4.58%	4.63%	4.60%	4.59%	4.37%	4.24%	4.61%	5.01%
Volume (Mn Shares)	145.0	66.1	123.1	105.9	55.9	68.6	77.4	82.4	88.8	58.9	70.8	104.6
Value (BHD Mn)	33.7	16.2	36.4	27.9	11.8	17.5	17.1	25.4	24.9	18.7	16.9	23.2
Trades	2,040	1,408	1,735	2,420	1,287	1,661	1,535	1,138	1,538	1,446	1,378	1,767

Source: Bahrain Bourse, Kamco Invest Research

After closing in the green for the first two months of the year, the Bahrain All Share index fell by 18.7% m-o-m in Mar-2020. The index closed at 1350.62 points, as all indices barring the Insurance index (+0.4%) witnessed declines for the month. Commercial Banks and the Industrials were the worst performing sectoral indices as they fell by 24.6% and 16.3% respectively. For Banks, both AUB (-30.8%) and National Bank of Bahrain (-13.2%) declined by double digit percentages. For Industrials, AUB singlehandedly brought the sectoral index down as its share price was down by 16.7% m-o-m. The Investment and Services indices were also down by 10.9% and 9.6% respectively. GFH (-37.4%) and Arab Banking Corporation (-15.7%) drove the Investment index down while Batelco (-9.8%) was largely responsible for declines in the Services index. The government of Bahrain announced a BHD 4.3 Bn economic stimulus package to support s citizens, the private sector and counter the effects of the COVID-19. The package included a three-month support for: private sector salaries, individual and business electricity & water bills, municipal fees exemption, exemption from industrial rental fees, and tourism levies exemption, along with measures to increase loan facilities and liquidity.

In full year earnings, SICO reported a total comprehensive income growth of 81% y-o-y from the BHD 3.8 Mn for 2018 to BHD 6.8 Mn in 2019. The bank recorded a 36% y-o-y increase in net operating income at BHD 14.6 Mn in 2019 from BHD 10.7 Mn in 2019. Consolidated net profit for SICO for 2019 increased by 63% y-o-y to BHD 6.0 Mn from BHD 3.7 Mn recorded at the end of 2018. In AGM related announcements NBB approved the distribution of a dividend of 35%, comprising of a 25% cash dividend and a 10% stock dividend in the form of bonus shares. Batelco's BOD approved a full year cash dividend of BHD 45.7 Mn at 27.5 fils/share, of which 10 fils/share was already paid during Q3-19, with the remaining 17.5 fils to be paid. Alba approved the distribution of cash dividend of 1 fils/share equivalent to BHD 1.412 Mn for the year 2019. Separately, GFH notified that the ownership of Keypoint Trust B.S.C. (c) in capacity as Trustee has increased from 6.61% to 7.24% of the total paid-up capital of GFH amounting to 266,599,779 shares, which are held in Bahrain Bourse and Dubai Financial Market.

Trading activity however increased, as volumes increased by 47.7% m-o-m to reach 104.6 Mn shares. Value traded went up by 34.6% m-o-m and reached BHD 23.2 Mn. The number of trades made in the exchange also increased to 1,767 trades, up 42.2% m-o-m from Feb-2020. AUB was the most actively traded stock in Mar-2020 with BHD 20.7 Mn worth of its shares traded on the exchange. GFH and Seef Properties followed with BHD 5.24 Mn and BHD 3.11 Mn worth of shares traded. In terms of volumes traded, GFH was the most active stock as 32.3 Mn shares were traded, followed by AUB and Seef Properties with 27.9 Mn and 16.3 Mn shares respectively. Only two stocks closed in the green in Mar-2020, Nass Corp and Bahrain National Holding as their share prices moved up by 2.4% and 1.5% respectively. Khaleeji Commercial Bank was the main laggard, as it witnessed a m-o-m decline of 37.5% m-o-m, followed by GFH and AUB with monthly declines of 37.4% and 30.8 respectively.



GCC Equity Markets Monthly

Muscat Securities Market

Monthly Indicators	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
MSM 30 Index	3,945.6	3,934.2	3,884.9	3,760.6	4,004.9	4,017.7	3,999.9	4,064.1	3,981.2	4,079.3	4,130.9	3,448.3
Monthly % Change	(1.0%)	(0.3%)	(1.3%)	(3.2%)	6.5%	0.3%	(0.4%)	1.6%	(2.0%)	2.5%	1.3%	(16.5%)
Market Cap (OMR Mn)	6,613	6,602	6,544	6,383	6,713	6,729	6,675	6,706	6,591	6,722	6,744	5,798
P/E (X) - TTM	8.82	8.85	8.70	7.67	8.21	8.22	8.26	8.32	8.13	8.47	8.66	7.13
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.69	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.75	0.73	0.75	0.73	0.60
Dividend Yield (%)	6.60%	6.59%	6.70%	7.66%	7.15%	7.13%	7.13%	7.05%	7.21%	6.80%	6.79%	8.01%
Volume (Mn Shares)	303.3	180.6	307.9	276.7	558.0	297.2	433.3	207.2	332.3	231.2	278.6	298.5
Value (OMR Mn)	41.9	27.4	52.9	37.3	164.3	40.9	53.4	32.4	62.0	40.8	52.9	71.6
Trades	12,704	8,473	8,365	9,982	8,464	11,066	10,774	9,901	10,490	11,293	12,494	10,507

Source: Muscat Securities Market, Kamco Invest Research.

After witnessing gains during the previous two months, the Omani stock market declined during March-2020, in line with the rest of the GCC markets. The MSM30 index declined by 16.5% during the month to reach 3,448.3 points, a 15-year low for the benchmark. This also pushed YTD-2020 returns in the red zone with a decline of 13.4%. The decline was broad-based as seen from the double-digit declines in all the three sectoral indices. The Financial index saw the biggest decline of 16.5% during the month followed by the Services Index and the Industrial Index with declines of 12.1% and 12.0%, respectively.

Monthly share performance in the regular market included only one gainer during the month, Shell Oman Marketing, which recorded a marginal gain of 0.5%, due to its being non-cyclical in nature and remains somewhat insulated from the current crisis. On the decliners side, Al Sharqia Investment topped with a decline of 34.4% followed by Bank Muscat and Raysut Cement which recorded declines of 28.4% and 27.2%, respectively. Shares of Bank Muscat declined after the bank was downgraded by Moody's by one notch to BB with a Negative outlook. The downgrade came after Oman's sovereign rating was downgraded to BB with a Negative outlook. The market breadth for the overall market was heavily skewed towards decliners that included 55 stocks while gainers included 7 companies. Prices of 56 companies remained unchanged during the month that recorded largely minimal trading activity.

Trading activity on the exchange improved for the second consecutive month during March-2020. Total shares traded on the exchanged reached 298.5 Mn, an increase of 7.1% as compared to previous month. Total monthly value traded also increased by 35.4% to reach OMR 71.6 Mn. The monthly volume traded chart was topped by Ominvest with a total volume of 83.7 Mn shares followed by Bank Muscat and Oman Fisheries with monthly volumes of 37.8 Mn and 19.6 Mn shares, respectively. Ominvest also topped the monthly value traded chart with shares worth OMR 30.1 Mn changing hands during the month followed by Bank Muscat and Omantel with value traded at OMR 15.1 Mn and OMR 4.5 Mn, respectively.

Regular market stocks accounted for the bulk of the trades on the exchange accounting for 53.3% of volume traded and 78.2% of value traded during March-2020. In terms of sector, the Financial sector accounted for 77% of value traded on the exchange followed by Services sector at 16% while the Industrial sector accounted for 7%. The share of Omanis in the total value of buy trades during the month increased from 88.5% in Feb-2020 to 90.0% in March-2020. In terms of value of sell trades, Omani's share increased from 75.6% in Feb-2020 to 76.0% in Mar-2020.

On the economic front, Oman's sovereign rating was downgraded by all the three rating agencies, Moody's, Fitch and S&P deeper in to the non-investment grade category. The downgrade reflected weakening fiscal and external balance sheet led by lower oil prices. By the end of the month, Moody's once again placed the Sultanate's rating under review for another downgrade highlighting incrased external vulnerability and government's liquidity risk following the crash in oil price.



Source: Muscat Securities Market, Kamco Invest Research

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