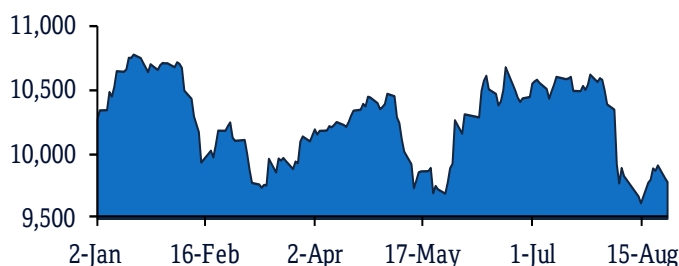


QSE YTD Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 0.3% to close at 9,787.8. Losses were led by the Real Estate and Banks & Financial Services indices, falling 0.6% and 0.5%, respectively. Top losers were Qatari Investors Group and Qatar First Bank, falling 3.0% each. Among the top gainers, Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Company gained 3.9%, while Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company was up 3.4%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index gained 0.2% to close at 8,257.9. Gains were led by the Pharma, Biotech and Utilities indices, rising 2.6% and 2.5%, respectively. Mobile Telecom. Co. rose 5.2%, while National Agricultural Marketing was up 4.6%.

Dubai: The DFM Index gained 0.5% to close at 2,729.0. The Consumer Staples and Discretionary index rose 1.6%, while the Insurance index gained 1.4%. Ithmaar Holding rose 8.3%, while Islamic Arab Insurance Company was up 3.8%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained 0.6% to close at 4,997.2. Gains were led by the Real Estate and Consumer Staples indices rose 2.2% and 0.7% respectively. National Takaful Co. rose 13.9%, while Abu Dhabi Ship Building Co. was up 11.2%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.4% to close at 5,934.9. The Consumer Goods index rose 1.9%, while the Insurance index gained 1.5%. National International Company rose 10.0%, while Kuwait Insurance Company was up 7.9%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell 1.3% to close at 3,927.1. Losses were led by the Financial and Services indices, falling 1.3% and 1.0%, respectively. Oman Qatar Insurance fell 6.6%, while Oman and Emirates Inv. Holding was down 6.5%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index fell 0.2% to close at 1,530.7. The Commercial Banks index declined 0.3%, while the Services index fell 0.1%. Ithmaar Holding declined 9.7%, while Bahrain Ship Repairing & Engineering was down 3.9%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.65	3.9	7,236.8	76.3
Qatar General Ins. & Reins. Co.	3.60	3.4	60.3	(19.8)
Al Khalij Commercial Bank	1.18	2.6	340.2	2.3
Zad Holding Company	13.50	1.7	13.7	29.8
Aljjarah Holding	0.66	1.5	334.0	(25.1)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
United Development Company	1.36	(1.4)	20,586.8	(7.8)
Qatar First Bank	0.29	(3.0)	17,886.8	(29.4)
Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd.	2.29	(0.4)	12,315.0	27.7
Masraf Al Rayan	3.49	(0.3)	9,458.3	(16.3)
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.65	3.9	7,236.8	76.3

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	9,787.77	(0.3)	(1.3)	(6.8)	(5.0)	36.06	148,088.7	14.1	1.5	4.5
Dubai	2,729.04	0.5	(1.4)	(6.5)	7.9	40.43	97,861.4	11.5	1.0	4.5
Abu Dhabi	4,997.22	0.6	(0.8)	(6.0)	1.7	38.37	137,693.9	14.8	1.4	5.0
Saudi Arabia	8,257.86	0.2	(2.2)	(5.4)	5.5	919.43	521,019.3	20.3	1.8	3.7
Kuwait	5,934.88	0.4	(1.1)	(3.0)	16.8	98.04	110,990.2	14.7	1.4	3.5
Oman	3,927.08	(1.3)	(1.5)	4.4	(9.2)	358.00	17,169.8	8.0	0.8	7.0
Bahrain	1,530.75	(0.2)	(0.2)	(1.1)	14.5	1.94	23,916.5	11.4	1.0	5.1

Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded (\$ mn) do not include special trades, if any)

Market Indicators	26 Aug 19	25 Aug 19	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	247.1	144.9	70.5
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	539,092.3	540,773.8	(0.3)
Volume (mn)	94.6	60.5	56.4
Number of Transactions	5,985	4,989	20.0
Companies Traded	44	43	2.3
Market Breadth	17:26	9:30	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	18,010.32	(0.3)	(1.3)	(0.7)	14.1
All Share Index	2,883.13	(0.4)	(1.7)	(6.4)	14.3
Banks	3,797.50	(0.5)	(2.1)	(0.9)	13.1
Industrials	2,935.25	(0.3)	(1.1)	(8.7)	16.9
Transportation	2,469.39	(0.3)	(1.4)	19.9	13.6
Real Estate	1,386.01	(0.6)	(2.5)	(36.6)	15.2
Insurance	2,658.08	0.2	(0.3)	(11.6)	15.5
Telecoms	864.64	0.2	(2.9)	(12.5)	15.8
Consumer	8,076.99	(0.2)	0.8	19.6	16.1
Al Rayan Islamic Index	3,802.99	(0.3)	(0.8)	(2.1)	14.1

GCC Top Gainers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Saudi Electricity Co.	Saudi Arabia	20.52	2.8	1,724.7	35.5
Rabigh Ref. & Petrochem.	Saudi Arabia	20.40	2.5	887.7	6.9
Almarai Co.	Saudi Arabia	51.00	2.4	916.1	6.3
Aldar Properties	Abu Dhabi	2.15	2.4	21,798.0	34.4
Yanbu National Petro. Co.	Saudi Arabia	53.50	2.1	1,124.6	(16.1)

GCC Top Losers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Bank Muscat	Oman	0.44	(2.7)	3,886.0	12.2
HSBC Bank Oman	Oman	0.13	(2.3)	225.2	5.9
Co. for Cooperative Ins.	Saudi Arabia	67.00	(2.2)	553.8	11.1
Bank Al Bilad	Saudi Arabia	25.65	(2.1)	2,901.7	17.7
Ooredoo Oman	Oman	0.49	(2.0)	23.8	(13.4)

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

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatari Investors Group	1.91	(3.0)	170.4	(31.3)
Qatar First Bank	0.29	(3.0)	17,886.8	(29.4)
Qatar Oman Investment Co.	0.50	(2.9)	293.1	(7.3)
Gulf Warehousing Company	4.76	(2.3)	24.3	23.7
Islamic Holding Group	2.00	(2.0)	360.1	(8.5)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
Masraf Al Rayan	3.49	(0.3)	32,866.1	(16.3)
QNB Group	18.02	(1.0)	32,149.8	(7.6)
Qatar Gas Transport Company	2.29	(0.4)	28,265.1	27.7
United Development Company	1.36	(1.4)	28,214.3	(7.8)
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.65	3.9	18,976.4	76.3

Source: Bloomberg (* in QR)

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index declined 0.3% to close at 9,787.8. The Real Estate and Banks & Financial Services indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from GCC and non-Qatari shareholders despite buying support from Qatari shareholders.
- Qatari Investors Group and Qatar First Bank were the top losers, falling 3.0% each. Among the top gainers, Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Company gained 3.9%, while Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company was up 3.4%.
- Volume of shares traded on Monday rose by 56.4% to 94.6mn from 60.5mn on Sunday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 59.6mn, volume for the day was 58.7% higher. United Development Company and Qatar First Bank were the most active stocks, contributing 21.8% and 18.9% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	18.22%	15.24%	7,346,061.83
Qatari Institutions	35.81%	25.82%	24,696,007.11
Qatari	54.03%	41.06%	32,042,068.94
GCC Individuals	0.67%	5.48%	(11,885,084.73)
GCC Institutions	2.63%	2.44%	481,910.39
GCC	3.30%	7.92%	(11,403,174.34)
Non-Qatari Individuals	4.41%	5.15%	(1,838,100.95)
Non-Qatari Institutions	38.26%	45.87%	(18,800,793.66)
Non-Qatari	42.67%	51.02%	(20,638,894.60)

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

Earnings Releases

Company	Market	Currency	Revenue (mn) 2Q2019	% Change YoY	Operating Profit (mn) 2Q2019	% Change YoY	Net Profit (mn) 2Q2019	% Change YoY
Makkah Construction and Development Company	Saudi Arabia	SR	150.0	-6.3%	86.0	-7.5%	87.0	24.3%

Source: Company data, DFM, ADX, MSM, TASI, BHB.

News

Qatar

- With record \$243bn in assets, QNB Group tops GCC peers in 1H2019** – QNB Group continues to hold the biggest share in total assets of listed GCC banks at the end of 1H2019, a leading financial website has stated. According to an estimate by financial website Mubasher, QNB Group has been ranked first among the GCC nations with total assets rising 5% to a record high of \$243bn in 1H2019. Share of QNB Group's asset is the biggest in total assets of listed GCC banks that reached \$2.19tn in 1H2019, compared to \$2.01tn in 1H2018, as per Mubasher statistics. One of the leading banks in the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia (MEASEA) region, QNB Group also registered the second highest profit of \$2.03bn among the GCC banks in the first half of 2019, it stated. For the first six months of 2019, QNB Group's net profit increased 4% compared to the same period in the previous year. Overall assets of Qatar-based banks increased by \$17.62bn to \$421.3bn at the end of first half of 2019, against \$403.68bn by the end of June 2018. As for Qatari banks' assets, they represented 19.2% of the total assets of banks across the GCC region. Assets of banks operating in the GCC increased by 9.13% YoY during the first half of 2019. A total of 61 listed banks in the GCC reported an 8.5% YoY profit hike during the first six months of 2019, recording \$18.54bn. (Qatar Tribune)
- Ooredoo announces the transfer of shares of Omani Qatari Telecommunications Company from one fully owned subsidiary to another fully owned subsidiary of Ooredoo** – Ooredoo announced that it has executed a share transfer, as part of an internal reorganization, of its 55% shareholding in Omani Qatari Telecommunications Company (Ooredoo Oman) from its fully owned subsidiary MENA Investcom S.P.C. to its fully owned subsidiary Seyoula International Investment

W.L.L, registered in Qatar. Both these subsidiaries are ultimately owned by Ooredoo. (QSE)

- Temporary technical glitch affected market watch screen on QSE website** – Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) would like to note that a slight temporary technical glitch occurred on August 26, 2019 at 12:22 PM on the market watch screen of QSE website. This led the index figures to remain unchanged at 9,791.73 points (representing a downward value by 25.73 points from the previous closing session). The index figures have remained unchanged until the close of August 26, 2019 trading session at 01:15 PM. The concerned department of QSE has made the necessary corrections to calculate the real changes of the index value that have taken place during the glitch period (from 12:22 – 01:15 PM). The updated figures are as follows: The index closed at 9,787.77 points and the previous index closed at 9,817.67 points, down by 29.9 points or 0.30%. The figures have been adjusted and updated on the market watch screen. The management of QSE would like to request the media reporters to ignore the previous figures of the index value and change and adopt the above updated figures shown on the market watch screen. (QSE)
- Qatari banks' overseas private deposits post double-digit jump in July** – Qatar's commercial banks' overseas customer deposits were seen outpacing total deposits generation YoY in July 2019, according to the central bank data. Total deposits within the country's commercial banks were up mere 0.06% YoY to QR814.01bn in July 2019, according to figures released by the Qatar Central Bank. Overseas deposits, on the other hand, witnessed a huge more than 23% surge to QR196.6bn; whereas domestic deposits declined about 6% to QR617.41bn in the review period. Foreign deposits accounted for 24% of the total deposits, while the remaining 76% came from the domestic sources. The private sector foreign deposits soared about 23%

YoY to QR158.92bn, or about 81% of the total deposits, in the country's commercial banks in July 2019. The share of public sector in overseas deposits stood at around 8%, or QR15.02bn, which was lower than that of non-banking financial institutions (QR22.66bn or 11%). The non-banking financial institutions' overseas deposits saw a 53% growth compared to a mere about 1% rise in the public sector. Public sector deposits saw about 13% YoY decline to QR266.89bn; while private sector deposits expanded about 7% to QR513.35bn. The private sector deposits constituted 63% of total deposits, public sector accounted for about 33% and the remaining was contributed by non-banking financial institutions (NBFIs). Much of the private sector deposits were in the form of savings and time (QR399.04bn) and current and call (QR114.31bn); while in the case of public sector, saving and time deposits amounted to QR230.04bn and current and call deposits at QR36.85bn. (Gulf-Times.com)

- **Ooredoo announces Qatar's first virtual store** – Qatar's leading telecommunications operator announced the launch of the country's first virtual store, the Ooredoo Virtual Store. Ooredoo has engaged Obsess, a Plug And Play partner, to create the new Virtual Store and bring a revolutionary 3D retail experience to customers from wherever they are. The new virtual store – the first such store anywhere in Qatar – offers customers the opportunity to browse and buy Ooredoo products and services as if they were actually in one of the many Ooredoo retail shops around town. Available at the Virtual Store will be Apple, Samsung and Huawei products, as well as packages, services and accessories. The new Ooredoo Virtual Store is 3D, 360° and interactive, allowing customers to learn about the products and services in which they are interested, and fully integrated with online e-commerce, so they can make purchases as and when they select products and services online. (Qatar Tribune)
- **SMEs fast shifting to online payment system** – On the back of Qatar's thriving e-commerce market, currently estimated at QR2bn, more and more SMEs in the country are now shifting towards online payment transactions. The faster and more convenient payment methods are proving fruitful for these small businesses. As of now, several products from financial institutions and service companies which offer electronic payment solutions to entrepreneurs abound in the Qatari market. For customers, online payment means cheaper price for a product or service, and a faster and more convenient transaction than writing, posting, and reconciling cheques. Merchants, on the other hand, enjoy the advantages of having faster and easier tracking of payments, fund access, cash management, and are able to collect payments from a wider range of audience. Doha Bank, one of the financial institutions supporting SMEs in Qatar, has witnessed an increase of 15-25% in the number of merchants shifting to its electronic payment system, according to Hussain Mohammad Hasan, e-Commerce Specialist at Doha Bank. (Peninsula Qatar)
- **Qatar-US trade volume surges to QR12.34bn in 1H2019** – Qatar-US trade volume is witnessing a continued growth. Despite the ongoing economic blockade and other challenges faced by Qatar, bilateral trade in goods between Qatar and the US witnessed a double-digit growth in the first six month of this year. The combined value of two-way trade exchange in goods

during the first half of this year jumped to QR12.34bn, registering a sharp growth of over 28% compared to QR9.61bn recorded in the corresponding period last year, data available at the US Census Bureau official website showed. When compared with the trade volume of the same period in 2017, the bilateral trade volume has grown more than double as the value of two-way trade exchange in goods between the two countries stood at QR5.86bn in 1H2017. With the significant surge in trade volume, the US trade surplus with Qatar (which represents the difference between exports and imports of goods) has also witnessed a steep jump to reach QR4.33bn in 1H2019, up by 16.6% compared to QR3.71bn of trade surplus recorded during the same period previous year. (Peninsula Qatar)

International

- **US business investment appears to struggle in third quarter** – New orders for key US-made capital goods rose modestly in July while shipments fell by the most in nearly three years, pointing to continued weakness in business investment and a slowdown in economic growth early in the third quarter. Coming against the backdrop of an escalation in US-China trade tensions, the report from the Commerce Department could provide more ammunition for the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates again next month. Orders for non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft, a closely watched proxy for business spending plans, increased by 0.4% last month, the government stated, driven by strong demand for electrical equipment, appliances and components. Data for June was revised down to show these so-called core capital goods orders advancing 0.9% instead of increasing 1.5% as previously reported. Economists polled by Reuters had forecasted core capital goods orders would fall 0.1% in July. Core capital goods orders increased 1.5% on a YoY basis. (Reuters)
- **Trump says China trade deal coming, Beijing calls for resolution of dispute** – The US President Donald Trump on Monday predicted a trade deal with China after positive gestures by Beijing, calming global markets that have been roiled by new tariffs from the world's two largest economies. Trump said after a G7 summit of world leaders in Biarritz, France, that he believed China was sincere about wanting to reach a deal, citing what he described as increasing economic pressure on Beijing and job losses there. Chinese Vice-Premier Liu He, who has been leading the talks with Washington, said on Monday that China was willing to resolve the trade dispute through calm negotiations and opposed any increase in trade tensions. Trump cited Liu's comments as a positive sign, underscoring his seniority, and repeated his assertion that Chinese officials had contacted US trade counterparts overnight and offered to resume negotiations, an assertion that China declined to confirm. (Reuters)
- **German business morale falls as 'export boomerang' hits** – German business sentiment deteriorated more than expected in August to hit its lowest in nearly seven years, a survey showed, in a further sign that escalating trade disputes are pushing Europe's largest economy towards a recession. The country's manufacturers - whose exports have been bedrock of German economic strength - are now struggling with weaker foreign demand, tariff disputes sparked by US President Donald Trump's 'America First' policies and business uncertainty

linked to Britain's decision to leave the European Union. The Munich-based Ifo institute stated its business climate index fell to 94.3 from an upwardly revised 95.8 in July. The August reading, the fifth monthly decline in a row, undershot a consensus forecast for 95.1. Business morale deteriorated also in services, wholesaling and construction. This suggests that so far robust domestic demand is now also losing momentum and that the manufacturing recession is creeping into other sectors of the economy. (Reuters)

- **Ifo economist: Germany is facing a recession** – Germany is facing a recession, Klaus Wohlrabe an economist at Germany's Ifo economic institute stated, as the institute's business climate index fell to its lowest level since August 2012. "There will be stagnation in the third quarter at best," Wohlrabe said, adding that this would also apply for final GDP figures for the second quarter, which Germany's statistics office is due to release on Tuesday. "We are facing a recession," he told Reuters. Wohlrabe added that although the business climate improved in Germany's struggling auto industry, it significantly deteriorated in the engineering, chemicals and electrics sectors. (Reuters)
- **Greece to fully lift capital controls imposed during bailout chaos** – Greece is fully lifting its remaining capital controls, Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said, in a move signaling the economy's continuing return to stability after the tumult of three international bailouts since 2010. "From today, capital controls are a thing of the past," Mitsotakis told lawmakers in parliament. Athens imposed capital controls in June 2015, when Greece was embroiled in a dispute with lenders over how to prop up an economy overwhelmed by a mountain of debt and its banks were bleeding cash. At the time, the European Central Bank decided to pull the plug on emergency funding to Greek lenders, forcing a three week shutdown of banks and a 60 Euro per day cap on cash machine withdrawals. The restrictions have been gradually eased since then. The cap on cash withdrawals was fully lifted in October 2018. However limits on money transfers abroad still remained. (Reuters)
- **Economy Minister: Japan automakers need not worry about US trade talks outcome** – Japanese Economy Minister Toshiyuki Motegi said he did not think US-Japan trade talks would result in an outcome that would cause concern for Japanese automakers. Motegi made the remarks to reporters in Tokyo after the US and Japan agreed in principle to core elements of a trade deal on Sunday at a Group of Seven leader's summit in Biarritz, France. Under that deal, Tokyo made concessions on agriculture while Washington refrained from raising its current auto tariffs on Japanese car imports while negotiations continued. (Reuters)
- **Reuters poll: China's housing market set to slow as Beijing talks tough** – China's housing market is expected to slow this year with sales forecast to drop, as Beijing steps up efforts to scrutinize banks and provincial governments to keep a lid on lending and prices, a Reuters poll showed. A resilient property market has provided some cushion for the world's second-largest economy as policymakers try to revive the ailing manufacturing sector and restore flagging consumer confidence amid an escalating trade war with the US. However rapidly-growing household debt and ever-rising home prices have

deepened fears about a sudden market correction and concerns over housing affordability. Property prices rose for the 51st straight month in July despite a series of government measures to crack down on speculative buying since early 2016. Average residential property prices are estimated to rise 6% in 2019 from a year earlier, according to the poll of 15 property analysts and economists surveyed from August 19-23. The forecast was slightly higher than the 5% projected in the last poll conducted in March, but is significantly slower than the 9.7% gain seen in 2018 and in July in YoY terms. (Reuters)

- **Chinese companies have unseen foreign debt that's maturing fast** – The foreign debt built up by Chinese companies is about a third bigger than official data showed, adding to the pressure on the country's currency reserves as a wave of repayment obligations approaches in 2020. On top of the \$2tn in liabilities to foreigners captured in official data, mainland Chinese firms have around another \$650bn in debts built up by subsidiaries overseas, according to Bloomberg calculations. About 70% of that debt is guaranteed by entities such as onshore parent companies and their subsidiaries, the data showed. The amount of maturing debt will rise in coming quarters, with \$63bn due in the first half of 2020 alone. The prospect of Chinese companies rushing to find dollars to service liabilities comes at a time when authorities have already allowed the currency to sink below 7 per Dollar amid a trade war with the US. The nation now risks a reprisal of what happened after the Yuan's devaluation in 2015, when foreign-debt servicing contributed to a rapid decline in the country's foreign-currency reserves. "China's debt servicing risks can be underestimated with this part of the debt staying outside the official gauge," Ji Tianhe said, a strategist at BNP Paribas SA in Beijing, adding that the \$3.1tn in foreign-currency reserves is just enough to cover the risks. (Peninsula Qatar)

Regional

- **GCC listed firms' aggregate net profit slides 14.7% in 2Q2019** – Total earnings for GCC-listed companies dropped 14.7% YoY in 2Q2019 to \$15.8bn from \$18.5bn in 2Q2018. Although only three of the six GCC markets recorded a decline in 2Q2019 earnings, Saudi Arabia's 37.1% decrease in 2Q2019 was enough to drag the whole GCC markets earnings down. Saudi Arabia saw the biggest decline among the GCC markets with its total profits sliding \$3.0bn to reach \$5.1bn in 2Q2019, down from \$8.1bn in 2Q2018. Qatari and Bahraini companies also witnessed YoY declines in earnings. Kuwait companies saw their 2Q2019 net profits rise as compared to the corresponding quarter in the previous year, KAMCO's 'GCC corporate earnings report for Q2' noted. In terms of sectors at the GCC level, three of the top five largest sectors by market cap including the Materials Sector, the Real Estate Sector and the Capital Goods sector recorded steep double-digit declines in their 2Q2019 net profits resulting in an overall decline in aggregate quarterly profits for the GCC during 2Q2019. On the other hand, the Banking and Telecom sector's 3.5% and 15.5% growth in profits during 2Q2019, respectively, failed to offset the overall decline at the GCC level. Profits for the Utilities sector also witnessed a steep drop of 40% during the quarter. GCC earnings also declined during 1H2019 as compared to 1H2018 by almost 10%

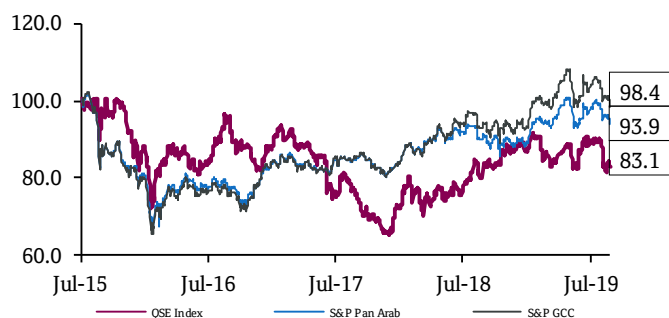
with total net profits reaching \$32.8bn as compared to \$36.4bn in 1H2018. (Peninsula Qatar)

- **Saudi Arabia's Red Sea Development seeks to raise \$3.5bn** – The Red Sea Development Co. started discussions with local lenders for a \$3.5bn loan in what would be its first borrowing, sources said. The loan may have a 15-year tenor and is likely to be backed by the Kingdom's sovereign wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund (PIF), sources said. The terms of the financing may change and the company hopes to complete a deal by the end of the year, sources added. "We are in active discussions with a number of banks to provide debt financing and are encouraged by the overwhelming positive response we have received," Head of Finance and Investments at the Red Sea Development Co., Jay Rosen said. Saudi Arabia is developing its coastline as part of plans to transform the economy and cut its reliance on oil. The project will cover 90 islands and 28,000 square kilometers (11,000 square miles). The Kingdom is also developing a cultural, sports and entertainment city, a \$500bn futuristic city, known as Neom, and a luxury destination on its northwest coast. The first phase of the Red Sea project is expected to be completed by 2022. When fully completed in 2030, the company expects the development to create as many as 70,000 jobs and contribute as much as \$5.9bn to the Kingdom's GDP. "Construction has already commenced as we have awarded over SR1bn of work in connection with enabling infrastructure," Jay Rosen said. (Bloomberg)
- **Dubai's FDI to surpass last year's figure of AED38.5bn** – Foreign direct investments into Dubai will surpass last year's AED38.5bn figure in 2019, a senior official said. "In the first quarter of 2019, according to Dubai FDI Monitor, we saw a 54% growth without counting the Uber-Careem deal. We are looking at 2019 a better year than last year and the number could be better than the performance we had in 2018," CEO of Dubai Investment Development Agency (Dubai FDI), Fahad Al Gergawi said. "We are in a city of optimism and His Highness, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has shown us the way and we are working within that; [our aim is] really to reach higher on these numbers," he said. Dubai recorded a 41% growth YoY in FDI in 2018, reaching AED38.5bn, placing the Emirate in the first position in total number of FDI projects and capital flows. Around 57% of total FDI projects were sourced from the US (23%), the UK (13%), France, (9%), India (7%) and China (5%). Retail and wholesale trade accounted for a quarter of total FDI followed by accommodation and food services (17%), administration and support services (8%), software publishers (6%) and finance and insurance (6%). In order to improve the quality of FDI, the region's financial capital is working on maintaining its high ranking among the global cities. "We are more into focusing on ranking. Dubai's ranking is within the cities of London, Singapore and Hong Kong. We want to continue within this league. Our rankings for the last five years have got to number one in performance among global cities and first again in renewable energy and number two in future prospects. Our goal is to maintain in between 10 to 5 rankings on global scale. The numbers can go up or down each year but this is our goal," he said. He said that Dubai is a gateway to the region, housing multinationals that
- are serving countries around the region including Indian Subcontinent, South Asia and Africa. (Zawya)
- **Rameda weighing stake sale on Dubai or London bourses** – Egypt's 10th of Ramadan Pharmaceuticals Industries & Diagnostic Reagents is considering offering a portion of its shares on the Dubai or London stock exchanges, the Cairo-based daily reported citing unidentified individuals. HSBC has been appointed as manager of the potential offering. Stake sale could be by the end of the year. The move comes after Rameda decided against initial plan to offer between 35%-45% of its shares on the Egyptian Stock Exchange. (Bloomberg)
- **Dubai's GEMS Education says Saudi Arabian venture buys Ma'arif** – Dubai-based school operator GEMS Education stated that its joint venture in Saudi Arabia has completed the acquisition of Ma'arif, the largest education company in the Kingdom. Blackstone-backed GEMS did not give a value for the purchase by its joint venture, which is co-owned by Saudi Arabia's General Organization for Social Insurance. (Reuters)
- **DP World and China's CCC Group to develop 'smart' marketplace in Dubai** – DP World, one of the world's largest port operators, has partnered with Zhejiang China Commodity City Group Company (CCC) to develop a Traders Market - the Middle East's first smart freezone marketplace catering to retail and wholesale industries - in Dubai's Jebel Ali Freezone Area (JAFZA). DP World will hold a majority share in the 70/30 joint venture, which will allow traders to benefit from lower supply chain costs by using multi-modal infrastructure available in Jebel Ali and Dubai. The first phase of the project is estimated to cost \$150mn. Construction on the project will start on the fourth quarter of 2019 and is expected to be completed in a year. "This investment showcases our trade-enabling strategy as we look to catalyze trade and the movement of goods through removing inefficiencies and lowering supply chain costs," Group Chairman and CEO, DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem said. Zhejiang-based CCC is a leading developer and operator of merchandise trading platforms. The new marketplace is also expected to help international traders to procure bulk products in Dubai at wholesale prices with the shortest delivery times and will be able to service demand more efficiently. Group Chairman, CCC Group, Zhao Wenge said: "The Middle-East/Africa region is critical for the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and we aim to serve this high-growth market through the Traders Market in Jebel Ali, Dubai." "We have chosen Jebel Ali for its efficient infrastructure, business-friendly environment and significant trade with China. The CCC group has a wealth of experience and a strong reputation for developing and operating efficient large-scale trading marketplaces. Together with DP World we are confident this venture will be a success," he added. China and UAE have been focusing on strengthening their economic and trade relations. UAE is expected to play a big role in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The bilateral trade between both the countries is expected to hit more than \$70bn by 2020. (Zawya)
- **Kuwait's Warba Bank to sell Dollar-denominated Islamic bonds** – Kuwait's Warba Bank has hired lenders including Standard Chartered to sell Dollar-denominated Islamic bonds, according to sources. The Shari'ah-compliant lender is also working with Emirates NBD and BNP Paribas on the benchmark-sized sale,

sources said. A benchmark sale usually raises at least \$500mn. More banks could be added as joint lead arrangers and bookrunners, they said. Warba Bank is rated 'Baa2' by Moody's and 'A+' by Fitch Ratings. It last sold Islamic bonds in 2017 when it raised \$250mn. The bank has a \$2bn Sukuk program and will use the proceeds for general corporate purposes. (Bloomberg)

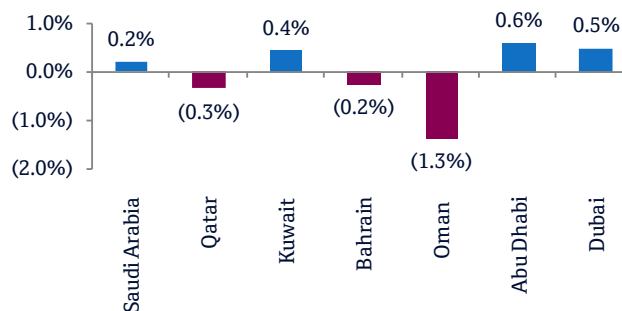
- **TAIB Bank to cease providing all services regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain** – Pursuant to the provisions of Article (50) of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) and Financial Institutions Law No. 64 of 2006 as amended, TAIB Bank, a wholesale bank licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain, hereby declares its intention to cease providing all services regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain. (Bahrain Bourse)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,527.15	0.0	0.0	19.1
Silver/Ounce	17.66	1.4	1.4	14.0
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	58.70	(1.1)	(1.1)	9.1
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	53.64	(1.0)	(1.0)	18.1
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.25	4.7	4.7	(29.4)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton*	41.25	0.0	0.0	(35.0)
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton*	40.38	0.0	0.0	(42.3)
Euro	1.11	(0.4)	(0.4)	(3.2)
Yen	106.12	0.7	0.7	(3.3)
GBP	1.22	(0.4)	(0.4)	(4.2)
CHF	1.02	(0.4)	(0.4)	0.3
AUD	0.68	0.3	0.3	(3.9)
USD Index	98.08	0.5	0.5	2.0
RUB	66.06	0.1	0.1	(5.2)
BRL	0.24	(0.8)	(0.8)	(6.6)

Source: Bloomberg (*Market was closed on August 26, 2019)

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	2,105.22	0.5	0.5	11.7
DJ Industrial	25,898.83	1.1	1.1	11.0
S&P 500	2,878.38	1.1	1.1	14.8
NASDAQ 100	7,853.74	1.3	1.3	18.4
STOXX 600	371.28	(0.3)	(0.3)	6.7
DAX	11,658.04	0.1	0.1	7.2
FTSE 100#	7,094.98	0.0	0.0	1.5
CAC 40	5,351.02	0.2	0.2	9.7
Nikkei	20,261.04	(2.8)	(2.8)	5.3
MSCI EM	960.81	(1.3)	(1.3)	(0.5)
SHANGHAI SE Composite	2,863.57	(1.9)	(1.9)	10.4
HANG SENG	25,680.33	(1.9)	(1.9)	(0.8)
BSE SENSEX	37,494.12	2.1	2.1	0.9
Bovespa	96,429.60	(2.1)	(2.1)	2.4
RTS	1,268.25	(0.0)	(0.0)	18.7

Source: Bloomberg (*\$ adjusted returns, #Market was closed on August 26, 2019)

Contacts

Saugata Sarkar, CFA, CAIA

Head of Research

Tel: (+974) 4476 6534

saugata.sarkar@qnbfs.com.qa

Mehmet Aksoy, PhD

Senior Research Analyst

Tel: (+974) 4476 6589

mehmet.aksoy@qnbfs.com.qa

Shahan Keushgerian

Senior Research Analyst

Tel: (+974) 4476 6509

shahan.keushgerian@qnbfs.com.qa

QNB Financial Services Co. W.L.L.

Contact Center: (+974) 4476 6666

PO Box 24025

Doha, Qatar

Zaid al-Nafoosi, CMT, CFTe

Senior Research Analyst

Tel: (+974) 4476 6535

zaid.alnafoosi@qnbfs.com.qa

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