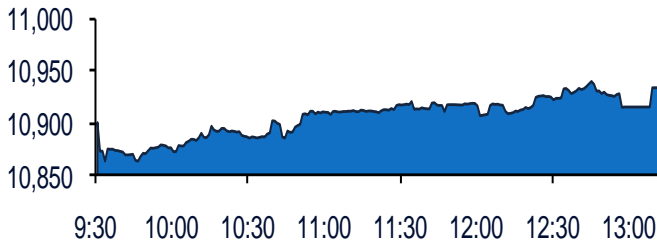


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index rose 0.4% to close at 10,935.6. Gains were led by the Insurance and Banks & Financial Services indices, gaining 2.5% and 0.7%, respectively. Top gainers were Doha Bank and Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Company, rising 10.0% and 5.3%, respectively. Among the top losers, Mannai Corporation fell 2.3%, while Al Meera Consumer Goods Company was down 1.3%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell marginally to close at 10,228.2. Losses were led by the Food & Staples Retailing and Banks indices, falling 1.3% and 0.4%, respectively. Saudi Company for Hardware declined 3.8%, while Mobile Telecommunications Company was down 2.4%.

Dubai: The DFM Index gained 0.8% to close at 2,686.4. The Real Estate & Construction index rose 2.2%, while the Consumer Staples index gained 0.6%. Al Salam Group Holding rose 10.1% while, Emirates Refreshments was up 5.8%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained 1.1% to close at 6,218.2. The Investment & Financial Services index rose 3.6%, while the Industrial index gained 3.0%. Arkan Building Materials Company rose 14.9%, while Abu Dhabi National Company for Building Materials was up 13.6%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.2% to close at 6,268.1. The Consumer Services index rose 5.2%, while the Real Estate index gained 1.2%. Munshaat Real Estate Project Co. rose 39.8%, while Kuwait Real Estate Holding Co. was up 20.3%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell marginally to close at 3,809.5. The Financial index declined 0.3%, while the other indices ended flat or in green. Ominvest declined 1.9%, while National Bank of Oman was down 1.3%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.5% to close at 1,529.9. The Commercial Banks index rose 0.9%, while the Services index gained 0.2%. Ahli United Bank rose 2.1%, while Takaful International Company was up 1.9%.

Market Indicators	09 May 21	06 May 21	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	494.7	610.6	(19.0)
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	634,415.6	632,023.0	0.4
Volume (mn)	293.3	400.1	(26.7)
Number of Transactions	8,521	11,465	(25.7)
Companies Traded	47	47	0.0
Market Breadth	26:19	24:20	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	21,647.65	0.4	0.4	7.9	18.5
All Share Index	3,461.84	0.5	0.5	8.2	19.3
Banks	4,525.18	0.7	0.7	6.5	15.8
Industrials	3,653.02	0.3	0.3	17.9	28.1
Transportation	3,472.68	(0.1)	(0.1)	5.3	23.2
Real Estate	1,915.40	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.7)	18.2
Insurance	2,729.64	2.5	2.5	13.9	25.8
Telecoms	1,082.20	0.1	0.1	7.1	28.7
Consumer	8,318.35	(0.1)	(0.1)	2.2	29.6
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,654.00	0.1	0.1	9.0	20.0

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
The Commercial Bank	Qatar	5.49	3.1	802.9	24.7
Emaar Properties	Dubai	4.00	2.3	19,274.0	13.3
Jabal Omar Dev. Co.	Saudi Arabia	30.70	2.2	8,863.9	5.5
Dar Al Arkan Real Estate	Saudi Arabia	10.58	2.1	16,251.6	22.2
Ahli United Bank	Bahrain	0.73	2.1	663.8	0.9

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Ominvest	Oman	0.31	(1.9)	50.0	(8.3)
Saudi National Bank	Saudi Arabia	54.00	(1.8)	1,419.7	24.6
National Bank of Oman	Oman	0.16	(1.3)	400.0	(1.2)
BinDawood Holding Co	Saudi Arabia	112.40	(1.2)	214.9	(5.5)
Bank Nizwa	Oman	0.09	(1.1)	64.0	(2.1)

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%
Doha Bank	2.75	10.0	19,071.7	16.2
Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Co.	4.17	5.3	5,902.0	119.9
Ahli Bank	3.89	5.0	4.5	12.7
Qatari Investors Group	2.38	4.1	9,728.6	31.2
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.97	3.6	118,364.9	49.2

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.97	3.6	118,364.9	49.2
Qatar Oman Investment Company	1.05	3.3	28,387.7	18.8
Doha Bank	2.75	10.0	19,071.7	16.2
Investment Holding Group	1.11	(0.3)	16,113.3	84.6
Qatar Aluminium Manufacturing Co	1.56	1.8	15,911.4	61.7

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Mannai Corporation	3.89	(2.3)	25.8	29.7
Al Meera Consumer Goods Co.	18.71	(1.3)	278.0	(9.7)
Qatari German Co for Med. Dev.	2.80	(0.8)	586.2	25.1
Ezdan Holding Group	1.79	(0.7)	8,671.8	0.6
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	1.15	(0.6)	9,199.1	(8.9)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.97	3.6	114,853.4	49.2
Doha Bank	2.75	10.0	50,980.6	16.2
QNB Group	17.99	0.0	43,370.3	0.9
Qatar Oman Investment Company	1.05	3.3	29,645.3	18.8
Qatar Aluminium Manufacturing	1.56	1.8	24,709.8	61.7

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*	10,935.58	0.4	0.4	0.2	4.8	134.22	170,911.6	18.5	1.6	2.7
Dubai	2,686.41	0.8	0.8	3.1	7.8	43.72	101,439.3	20.7	0.9	3.0
Abu Dhabi	6,218.22	1.1	1.1	2.8	23.2	260.04	244,228.2	21.7	1.8	4.2
Saudi Arabia	10,228.19	(0.0)	(0.0)	(1.8)	17.7	1,278.95	2,572,103.7	30.6	2.3	1.9
Kuwait	6,268.10	0.2	0.2	2.5	13.0	276.90	118,562.5	45.5	1.6	2.2
Oman	3,809.47	(0.0)	(0.0)	1.3	4.1	3.18	17,202.7	11.5	0.7	4.7
Bahrain	1,529.93	0.5	0.5	3.0	2.7	4.69	23,391.1	31.9	1.0	2.2

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

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index rose 0.4% to close at 10,935.6. The Insurance and Banks & Financial Services indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from GCC, Arab and Foreigners shareholders despite selling pressure from Qatari shareholders.
- Doha Bank and Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Company were the top gainers, rising 10.0% and 5.3%, respectively. Among the top losers, Mannai Corporation fell 2.3%, while Al Meera Consumer Goods Company was down 1.3%.
- Volume of shares traded on Sunday fell by 26.7% to 293.3mn from 400.1mn on Thursday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 296.3mn, volume for the day was 1.0% lower. Salam International Investment Limited and Qatar Oman Investment Company were the most active stocks, contributing 40.4% and 9.7% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	48.95%	53.85%	(24,209,742.4)
Qatari Institutions	13.32%	16.93%	(17,869,821.7)
Qatari	62.27%	70.78%	(42,079,564.1)
GCC Individuals	0.86%	0.84%	111,933.7
GCC Institutions	1.06%	0.56%	2,481,807.5
GCC	1.92%	1.39%	2,593,741.3
Arab Individuals	18.15%	17.46%	3,449,448.0
Arab	18.15%	17.46%	3,449,448.0
Foreigners Individuals	6.50%	5.84%	3,221,391.6
Foreigners Institutions	11.17%	4.53%	32,814,983.2
Foreigners	17.66%	10.38%	36,036,374.8

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

Earnings Releases and Earnings Calendar

Earnings Releases

Company	Market	Currency	Revenue (mn) 1Q2021	% Change YoY	Operating Profit (mn) 1Q2021	% Change YoY	Net Profit (mn) 1Q2021	% Change YoY
BinDawood Holding Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	1,124.4	-20.4%	86.8	-42.7%	62.1	-50.8%
Chubb Arabia Cooperative Insurance Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	-	-	-	-	740.0	N/A
Mouwasat Medical Services Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	534.1	8.1%	158.5	28.9%	147.2	36.3%
Theeb Rent a Car Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	176.9	-10.5%	33.2	-19.1%	26.0	-23.7%
Knowledge Economic City	Saudi Arabia	SR	24.6	6.2%	(2.1)	N/A	(4.8)	N/A
Red Sea International Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	108.4	-30.3%	(28.6)	N/A	(32.7)	N/A
Anaam International Holding Group	Saudi Arabia	SR	2.0	-39.5%	(2.8)	N/A	(2.7)	N/A
Saudi Ground Services Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	373.0	-27.2%	(11.8)	N/A	(16.7)	N/A
Alandalus Property Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	50.5	20.5%	32.8	45.0%	19.0	54.9%
Arabia Insurance Cooperative Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	-	-	-	-	0.7	-71.8%
The Company for Cooperative Insurance	Saudi Arabia	SR	-	-	-	-	46.8	51.5%
Naseej International Trading Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	70.3	63.3%	(2.4)	N/A	(5.3)	N/A
Fitaihi Holding Group	Saudi Arabia	SR	147.0	628.3%	131.6	N/A	130.1	N/A
Ash-sharqiyah Development Co	Saudi Arabia	SR	-	-	-	-	(0.3)	N/A
Methanol Chemicals Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	194.8	61.9%	35.8	N/A	29.9	N/A
Wataniya Insurance Co.	Saudi Arabia	SR	-	-	-	-	1.6	N/A
United Foods Company	Dubai	AED	140.9	15.3%	-	-	8.2	-53.5%
Emaar Malls	Dubai	AED	-	-	-	-	318.0	169.0%
National Central Cooling Co.	Dubai	AED	357.6	21.5%	134.6	28.4%	78.6	2.5%

Source: Company data, DFM, TASI

Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting 1Q2021 results	No. of days remaining	Status
QGRI	Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company	11-May-21	1	Due

Source: QSE

Qatar

- QETF generates 39% return in three years** – The QE Index ETF (QETF), Qatar's first conventional exchange traded fund (ETF) and one of the GCC's largest ETFs, has generated a total return of 39.25% since its inception three years ago. The QETF, which has assets under management of approximately QR 428.5mn (\$117.7mn) as of April 29, 2021, was founded by Doha Bank with Aventicum Capital Management Qatar working as Investment Manager. The QETF tracks the performance of the QE Price Index, which offers access to the 20 largest, most highly capitalized and liquid companies in Qatar through a single listed product. The fund is a listed, transparent, liquid and low-cost investment product which was launched in 2018 as part of the Qatar Exchange's initiative to provide local and international investors with an efficient way to gain exposure to the strongest and most liquid Qatari companies. At the time of listing, the Qatar Exchange CEO, Rashid Mansoori stated that the ETF was in line with the government's vision of promoting sound investment products listed on the exchange as part of Qatar's Vision 2030. (Qatar Tribune)
- Qatar to gradually lift COVID-19 restrictions from May 28** – Qatar will begin gradually lifting coronavirus restrictions in four phases from May 28, health ministry official Abdel Latif Al-Khal said during a press conference in Doha. First phase includes allowing blended learning at 30% capacity and reopening daycare centers with 30% capacity. All staff must be vaccinated, Al-Khal said. Phase 1 also includes maintaining shopping malls capacity at 30% excluding children under age of 12 and allowing outdoor dining at 30% capacity to all customers and indoor dining at 30% capacity for vaccinated people, he said. Authorities also will maintain 50% capacity at the workplace with essential business meetings limited to 15 vaccinated people: Al-Khal. Al-Khal said each phase will last for 3 weeks. (Bloomberg)
- Cushman and Wakefield: Qatar's new property laws boost residential investments** – Recent amendments to real estate ownership laws have boosted residential investment sales, particularly in Lusail, with freehold interests in property now available for non-Qataris to purchase, according to Qatar (CWQ). Law No.16 of 2018 provides expatriate property owners with the permanent residency card privileges for property investment above QR3,650,000 and the benefit of a residency permit without a sponsor for owners of real estate worth more than QR730,000. According to the report, reviewing the fourth quarter real estate market in Qatar, residential sales continue to dominate the real estate market in 1Q. Vacant land plots accounting for 53% of sales activity, while private residences account for 40% of transactions. In the residential leasing market, the impact of the FIFA World Cup, which will take place in Qatar in November and December of 2022, is already evident, the real estate report said. The expected increase in demand next year, underpinned by the proposed large-scale acquisition of apartments on government 'Eskan' leases, has led to a rise in the number of private tenants requesting two-year lease agreements, it added. (Qatar Tribune)
- Cushman & Wakefield: Qatar to add 20k hotel rooms before FIFA World Cup** – Almost 20,000 hotel keys are at various stages of planning and construction in Qatar and most of them are expected to be complete before the FIFA World Cup kicks-off in November 2022, Cushman & Wakefield (C&W) has said in its latest report. According to the report, the overall supply of hotel rooms currently in Qatar, including hotel apartments, is 33,208 rooms. The report said that the recovery in tourist numbers in Qatar post-pandemic is likely to be focused on the delivery of new resorts, attractions, and leisure facilities, "The importance of leisure tourism to Qatar has increased over the

past year as the increasing reliance on online meeting facilities is likely to have a prolonged impact on global and regional business travel," the report said. Last year, the report said, Qatar's tourism sector enjoyed a solid start with a 33 percent increase in year-on-year performance in January and February. However, the industry was significantly damaged by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March. Temporarily reducing the overall supply of available rooms, the report said, several hotels throughout Qatar have been used as quarantine facilities for people travelling to Qatar. "The resumption of diplomatic ties in the GCC is a welcome development for the hotel sector in Qatar. Before the introduction of the blockade, visitors from GCC countries made up almost 50% of arrivals to Qatar. While we expect to see a significant boost in visitor numbers, particularly from Saudi Arabia, any potential return to pre-blockade performance is unlikely until COVID-19 vaccinations are at a more advanced stage and quarantine restrictions are eased throughout the region," the report said. (Qatar Tribune)

- Dun & Bradstreet: Higher oil prices reduce Qatar's financing needs** – Higher oil prices, which are up by more than one-third since the start of 2021, will narrow Qatar's fiscal deficit to around 0.4% of GDP, reducing its need for external financing, Dun & Bradstreet has said in its short-term economic outlook. Qatar's 2021 budget is based on the conservative oil price assumption of \$40/barrel, which is substantially lower than Dun & Bradstreet forecast of \$56.2. "A combination of higher oil prices and an estimated fiscal break-even oil price of \$43.1/barrel mean that Qatar will likely post only a small deficit of around 0.4% this year, freeing up resources for higher investment spending, which could create opportunities in the construction sector. "Qatar's stronger fiscal position likely means that it will focus on paying down its sizeable external debt obligations. Qatar plans on repaying up to \$10bn this year as part of a debt reduction plan, that will draw on cash reserves built up through surplus bond issuances over the last three years," Dun & Bradstreet noted. Meanwhile, the onset of a second wave of COVID-19 has prompted the government to impose new restrictions, including a ban on public and private gatherings. The new restrictions come as Qatar's vaccine roll-out accelerates, with the country having administered enough vaccine doses to cover nearly 20% of the population. "The impact on demand of the new restrictions will be somewhat offset by the onset of the holy month of Ramadan, which fuels higher consumption," Dun & Bradstreet said. In terms of 'Business Environment Quality', the researcher noted Qatar's commercial risks are generally considered to be low and the country ranks a "respectable" 29th in the latest Global Competitiveness Report. "The lifting of the blockade will see a further realignment of supply chains, cutting costs for businesses. It will also reboot tourist activity and ensuring the market access to the other member states via Qatar is strengthened. "The coronavirus crisis has created a wide range of challenges to the trade and commercial environment globally, but Qatar is better placed than most countries to ride out the pandemic," Dun & Bradstreet said. (Gulf-Times.com)
- Qatar Chamber lauds Shura Council approval of draft law establishing investment, trade court** – Qatar Chamber has lauded the Shura Council's recent approval of a draft law establishing the Investment and Trade Court, saying this would help boost the country's bid as a business and investment hub. "The draft law...is a new step in the march of supporting the growth of the national economy, enhancing the State's investment climate, and stimulating foreign investments," Qatar Chamber chairman Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Thani stated in the latest edition of Al Moltaqa, the chamber's monthly economic

magazine. Sheikh Khalifa stressed that the move will significantly contribute to accelerating the pace of disputes settlement and achieving justice, as well as ensuring that all litigants have their rights as quickly as possible, especially that commercial disputes require speedy adjudication to avoid the disruption of businesses and projects. "Without a doubt, Qatar has achieved great strides in the field of commercial arbitration through the establishment of specialized centers and the issuance of an independent law for commercial arbitration, in addition to the establishment of a court specialized in investment and economic cases," Sheikh Khalifa said. (Gulf-Times.com)

- **Dukhan Bank customers can now manage stocks with The Group on mobile banking app** – Dukhan Bank has become the first bank to offer its customers the opportunity to manage their stocks with The Group using its mobile banking application. The trading service is powered by The Group Securities (licensed by the Qatar Financial Markets Authority), Qatar-based online trading platform, which allows customers to view real-time market data, place buy and sell stocks, evaluate their portfolio, and analyze market at their fingertips and with utmost convenience. The mobile application will offer the 'My Stocks' feature, under which customers can access their Group account to manage their portfolio. (Gulf-Times.com)

International

- **Focus shifts to US prices after jobs disappointment** – Inflation and retail sales reports receive top billing on the US economic calendar this coming week in the wake of surprisingly disappointing jobs figures. The consumer-price index excluding volatile food and energy components is projected to increase a healthy 0.3% in April, matching the previous month's advance and signaling moderate inflation. While the CPI will accelerate sharply from a year earlier, when the pandemic depressed activity, Federal Reserve policy makers are taking the increases in stride. The figures will help show the extent that surging commodities and materials prices are being passed through to households. The Labor Department's report on Wednesday precede figures on retail demand at week's end. Economists project the value of purchases at US retailers climbed another 1% last month after a March surge that was the largest in 10 months and fueled by a fresh round of government stimulus checks. Industrial production, the number of job openings and prices paid to producers round out a flurry of US economic data. (Bloomberg)
- **FT: UK officials admit some markets to be subject to duties under post-Brexit deal terms** – Companies in freeports in Britain will not get to enjoy the full benefits of the new tax-efficient zones if they are exporting to certain countries including Canada, Norway, Switzerland and Singapore, the Financial Times reported on Sunday, citing government officials. Freeports are a special kind of port where normal tax and customs rules do not apply. Goods that arrive into freeports from abroad are not subject to tariffs that are normally paid to the government. However, the recent post-Brexit trade agreements with 23 countries include clauses which specifically prohibit manufacturers in freeport-type zones from benefiting from the deals, the FT report added, citing officials. In March, Finance Minister Rishi Sunak said freeports will be set up at East Midlands Airport, Liverpool, Felixstowe, Plymouth, Thames, Teesside, Humber And Solent. (Reuters)
- **England to ease COVID restrictions further on May 17** – England will press ahead with plans to ease COVID-19 restrictions further on May 17, including allowing people to meet indoors, thanks to favorable data on infections and vaccines, the government said. The country is in the process of gradually lifting its latest lockdown over a period of months, in line with a

four-step plan unveiled in February. Under Step 3 of the plan, as outlined when it was first announced, people will be allowed to meet up indoors for the first time in months, in groups of up to six people or two full households together. Pubs, cafes and restaurants will be able to host customers indoors, also for the first time in months and subject to certain rules. Other indoor entertainment, hospitality and sports venues will also be able to resume activity. Johnson's Downing Street office said the latest data on COVID vaccinations, on infections, hospitalizations and deaths, and on the risk posed by new variants had been taken into account in deciding to move forward with Step 3. Johnson was due to provide further details at a news conference. Semi-autonomous administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have their own separate timetables for easing COVID restrictions. The UK has lost more than 127,000 people to COVID-19. It experienced a devastating second wave that peaked in late January, but since then the numbers of new cases and deaths have plummeted. (Reuters)

Regional

- **IIF: GCC tourism sector to recover faster than other MENA countries** – The tourism sector in the six GCC countries will recover faster than the other tourism-dependent Middle East and North Africa (MENA) countries such as Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Egypt, the Institute of International Finance (IIF) said. The Washington DC-based think-tank foresees tourism in the MENA region will not return to pre-pandemic levels until 2023. Garbis Iradian, chief economist for MENA and CCA at IIF, said partial information for the first quarter of this year showed that the number of tourist arrivals to the oil-importing MENA countries were just 25% of what they were in first quarter of 2020, and recent increases in Covid-19 cases in key source markets, including the EU, will delay the partial recovery to the second half of this year. (Zawya)
- **Emaar The Economic City's board proposes SR2.8bn capital hike** – The board of Emaar The Economic City recommended a capital increase worth SR2.83bn to endorse liquidity, credit position, and ability to achieve growth objectives. The capital raise will be carried out by converting a loan that will be owed by the company to the Public Investment Fund (PIF). Emaar The Economic City has appointed Saudi Fransi Capital as the financial advisor for this capital increase. Approvals from official authorities as well as the extraordinary general assembly meeting are still required to proceed with the raise through debt conversion. Last September, the listed firm said discussions were ongoing between the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the PIF regarding novation of part of the loan due to MoF pursuant to a loan agreement with MoF to PIF at a total value of SR2.833bn. (Bloomberg)
- **Saudi National Bank approves SR3.6bn dividends** – The shareholders of the Saudi National Bank gave the green light for distributing cash dividends worth SR3.58bn for 2020, according to a disclosure. The bank will pay SR0.8 per share to the entitled shareholders as of 23 May, representing 8% of the share's nominal value. The financial institution, which is a result of a recent merger between the National Commercial Bank and Samba Financial Group, announced the dividend payout value last month. (Bloomberg)
- **Bank AlJazira announces the redemption of its SR2bn Tier 2 Sukuk due 2026** – Bank AlJazira announced its intention of early redemption of its SR2bn Tier 2 Sukuk on 2nd of June 2021 in full, at face value. The Sukuk were offered through private placement on 2nd of June 2016, qualifying as Tier 2 subordinated debt in accordance with the Basel III framework. The Sukuk were issued on 2nd of June 2016 for an aggregate value of SR2bn (2,000 Sak with a face value of SR1,000,000 each) with an original maturity of ten years due on 2nd of June

2026. In accordance with the Sukuk's terms and conditions, Bank AlJazira as an issuer, can call the Sukuk on the periodic distribution date that falls on or nearest to 2nd of June 2021 knowing that regulatory approval has already been obtained in this regard. (Bloomberg)

- **Almarai's subsidiary concludes SR150mn equity acquisition** – Western Bakeries Company, a subsidiary of Almarai Company (Almarai), has completed the acquisition of an additional 15% stake owned by Olayan Financing Company in Modern Food Industry. The total value of the acquisition stands at SR150mn. Following this acquisition, Western Bakeries will own 75% of the capital of Modern Food Industry. The transaction was fully financed from Almarai's operating cash flows. In addition, the financial impact will reflect on the second quarter's financial results. Earlier this month, Almarai said it would be investing SR6.6bn to expand in the poultry segment over five years. (Bloomberg)
- **Banque Saudi Fransi to pay SR480mn dividends for 2020** – The shareholders of Banque Saudi Fransi approved the board's recommendation to distribute SR0.4 per share as a cash dividend for 2020, according to a bourse filing. The bank will pay a total of SR479.98mn in dividends, representing 4% of the shares' nominal value. The distribution of 2020 dividends will begin on 31 May. Banque Saudi Fransi's board proposed last March the dividends after the bank had achieved a net profit worth SR10.3bn in 2020. (Bloomberg)
- **Moody's: Saudi Arabia's 1Q2021 budget outturn 'evidence of structural improvements'** – Saudi Arabia has announced a significant narrowing of the government budget deficit to \$2bn (0.3% of full-year GDP) in the first quarter of this year from \$29bn in the fourth quarter and \$9bn in the first quarter of 2020, according to top ratings agency Moody's. Although this improvement was largely driven by higher oil prices and a large seasonal drop in spending, the budget performance figures also reveal a structural improvement evident in the decline in the non-oil fiscal deficit to the lowest level in more than six years, a credit positive, it stated. The structural improvement was mainly a result of the tripling of the value added tax (VAT) rate to 15% last July and a nearly 50% cut in capital expenditure so far this year, in line with the approved 2021 budget. The structural improvement reduces the fiscal exposure to fluctuations in global oil demand and prices. If sustained, it will also help reverse part of the fiscal deterioration that took place last year as a result of the coronavirus shock and arrest a further significant deterioration in the government's balance sheet, it added. According to Moody's, Saudi Arabia's public finances remain highly sensitive to fluctuations in the oil price as oil revenues continue to account for more than a half of total revenues, although this is down from an average of more than 70% in 2014-18. (Zawya)
- **National Gypsum Company's shareholders approve SR0.6 per share dividend** – The shareholders of the National Gypsum Company gave the green light for the board's proposal to distribute SR0.6 per share as a cash dividend for 2020. The company will pay out a total of SR19mn in dividends, which account for 6% of the capital. National Gypsum will distribute the dividends as of 23 May, according to a bourse. (Bloomberg)
- **VPI: Dubai's apartment, villa capital values post highest monthly rise in 7 years** – Residential capital values in Dubai have continued to strengthen, rising by an average of 1.2% in April 2021, the highest monthly increase in seven years, according to ValuStrat Price Index (VPI). The latest price movement could be an indication that the city's property market has reached its bottom, the research firm said in a report released on Sunday. "On a citywide level, capital values of residential homes commenced a growth trend, a promising

signal that the property market has indeed bottomed out. Clear improvements in capital values were observed in 96 percent of locations monitored by the VPI," the report said. However, compared to last year, last month's capital values were still 6.5% lower. Dubai's property market had been subdued prior to the coronavirus pandemic, owing mainly to a huge supply glut. Property prices and rents fell further last year after the global lockdown, but industry sources claimed that there have been signs of improvement on the back of rising demand from homebuyers. (Zawya)

- **Emirates Investment Bank turns to profitability in 1Q2021** – Emirates Investment Bank has achieved net profits attributable to the equity holders of AED7.005mn in the first quarter of 2021, compared to net losses of AED6.07mn in the same period of 2020, according to the bank's consolidated interim financial results for the three-month period ended 31 March 2021. The bank's net income increased to AED11.724mn in the first three months of 2021 from AED10.776mn in the year-ago period. Meanwhile, the bank's operating income reached AED20.213mn in 1Q2021, up from AED19.806mn in 1Q2020. The basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS) settled at AED10.01 in the January-March period of 2021, against losses per share of AED8.67 in the corresponding period of 2020. (Bloomberg)
- **ADNOC invites banks to bookrunner roles for drilling unit IPO** – Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has invited investment banks to help arrange the initial public offering (IPO) of ADNOC Drilling through their bookrunner roles, sources told Reuters. One of the sources referred that ADNOC invited several international and local banks to take part in the public share sale process of ADNOC Drilling, which is due later this month. ADNOC Drilling owns and operates the largest fleet of 96 rigs in the Middle East, including onshore rigs and offshore rigs, according to the company's website. Noteworthy to mention, last week, sources told Bloomberg that the oil giant is close to hiring JPMorgan Chase & Co and First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) to arrange the potential listing of its drilling unit, as the company seeks to sell a minority stake in a deal that could raise up to \$10bn. (Bloomberg)
- **FAB completes share transfer process to acquire Bank Audi Egypt** – First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) has completed the share transfer process to acquire 100% of the share capital of Bank Audi Egypt after receiving all necessary regulatory approvals. FAB will start integrating the assets and operations of Bank Audi Egypt and FAB Egypt, which is expected to be completed in 2022, according to the bank's recent disclosure to the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX). EFG Hermes acted as sole financial advisor to Bank Audi on the transaction, while Dechert LLP and Zulficar and Partners acted as legal advisers. Meanwhile, FAB and UBS AG of the London branch acted as financial advisers to FAB, while Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Matouk Bassiouny & Hennawy acted as legal advisers. Noteworthy to mention, in late April, FAB started the share transfer process to acquire Bank Audi Egypt to become one of Egypt's largest foreign banks by assets with pro-forma total assets of over EGP130bn as of December 31, 2020. (Bloomberg)
- **Abu Dhabi's Senaat plans to combine Emirates Steel with Arkan** – State-owned holding company ADQ's Senaat will combine its wholly-owned subsidiary Emirates Steel Industries with Arkan, a construction and building materials company in the UAE, according to a bourse filing on Sunday. In a statement to the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX), Arkan said its board of directors has received an offer to merge the two firms in exchange for the issuance of an instrument that would automatically convert into approximately 5.1bn ordinary shares

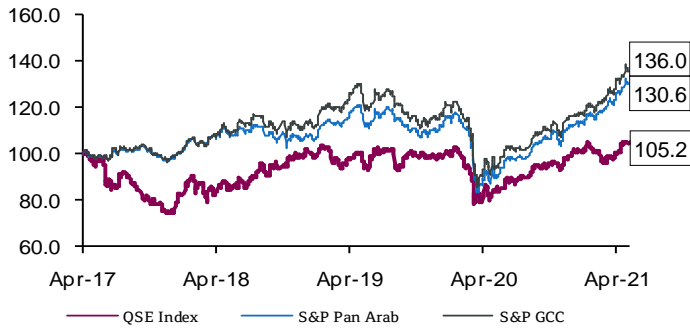
in Arkan's capital. Senaat would then own the majority (87.5%) of the combined entity's share capital. (Zawya)

- **Abu Dhabi's ADQ bets on recovery with Emirates Steel-Arkan Deal** – Abu Dhabi is seeking to create the largest steel and building materials company in the UAE and cash in on an economic recovery that's being boosted by government spending on infrastructure projects. ADQ, one of Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth funds, plans to combine Emirates Steel Industries with Arkan Building Materials Company (Arkan) and form an entity with assets of about AED13bn. "The combined entity will be well positioned to benefit from expected stimulus-led increased activity in the domestic and regional construction sector and an expected economic recovery in the target markets," said Harshjit Oza and Yawar Saeed at Abu Dhabi-based International Securities. The deal comes amid a boom in the price of steel and other metals as major economies reopen, leading to a manufacturing rebound. "The indirect listing of Emirates Steel will give investors exposure to the domestic steel sector on UAE public markets, amidst rising global steel prices," Oza and Saeed wrote in a note on Sunday. (Bloomberg)
- **Masdar, Finland's Taaleri Energia to develop solar plant in Greece** – The Abu Dhabi-based Masdar has partnered with Taaleri Energia, a Finland-based wind and solar developer and fund manager, to develop a 65-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) project in Greece. The project will be managed by the companies' joint venture Masdar-Taaleri Generation (MTG), according to a press release on Thursday. To be established by MTG alongside local partners, the Constantakopoulos family, and Autohellas, the project is Masdar's first investment in the Greek market. The construction of the solar PV project, which will participate in Greece's feed-in-tariff (FiT) premium auction scheme in late 2021, is forecast to be completed in 2023. (Bloomberg)
- **Aramex names new CEO** – Aramex announced that it has appointed Othman Aljeda as the company's new CEO to replace Bashar Obeid. Since Aljeda joined Aramex in 1994, he has occupied several leadership positions to promote the company's businesses in the GCC, Asia and North America & Europe, according to a press release on Thursday. (Bloomberg)
- **IHC's unit acquires stake in US-based digital media platform** – Multiply Marketing Consultancy (MMC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of International Holdings Company (IHC), has acquired a minority stake in the US-based Firefly, a street-level digital media platform connecting audiences with dynamic media on taxis and rideshare vehicles. The transaction will enable Firefly to expand its operations in the Middle East for the first time through a joint-venture office based within MMC's headquarters in Abu Dhabi, according to a press release on Sunday. The acquisition comes following MMC's investment in New York-based Yieldmo, a digital advertising and attention analytics company. Backed by premier investors such as Google Ventures, NFX, and Stanford University's StartX Fund, Firefly works with taxi companies and rideshare drivers across US major cities to install its proprietary advertising displays atop their vehicles. (Bloomberg)
- **SCCI 1Q2021 Report shows rising confidence in Sharjah's business environment** – The Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) has recently issued its first quarterly report on the activities and statistics of the chamber and its branches in Khor Fakkan, Kalba, Al Dhaid, and The report showed that 1882 new companies joined Sharjah's business community during the first quarter of 2021, a rise of 52% (647 companies) compared to the previous year, something which clearly reflects the global demand for Sharjah's business environment. The Chamber has also further strengthened its position as one of the largest chambers of commerce in the Middle East and North Africa after

it recorded a growth of 9% in the total number of its members compared to the same period last year, an increase of 1377 memberships, as the total number of new and renewed members reached 16,198 compared to 14821 last year. The number of renewed memberships reached 14,316, an increase of 5%, while the number of certificates of origin issued reached 18,222 and 607 certificates for free zones. (Zawya)

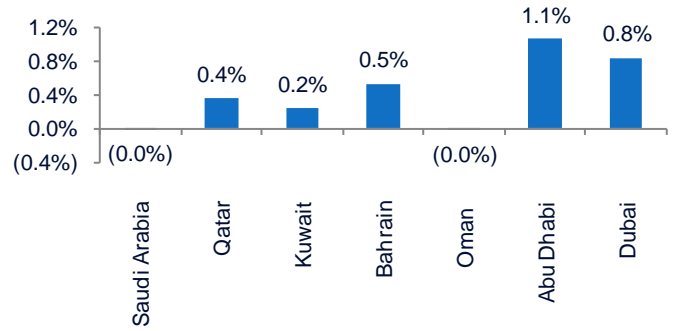
- **Oman Insurance Company's 'A' rating affirmed by AM Best** – Oman Insurance Company, one of the region's leading insurer, has been reassigned a 'Stable' outlook by AM Best while reaffirming its Financial Strength Rating of 'A (Excellent)' and Long-Term Issuer Credit Rating of 'A'. The ratings reflect Oman Insurance Company's balance sheet strength, which AM Best categorizes as very strong, as well as its strong operating performance, neutral business profile, and appropriate enterprise risk management. According to AM Best, Oman Insurance Company's balance sheet strength is underpinned by its strongest level of risk-adjusted capitalization, as measured by Best's Capital Adequacy Ratio (BCAR). Moreover, Oman Insurance Company has a demonstrated track record of strong operating performance and the company reported a profit after tax of AED196.5mn for 2020 which translated to an ROE of 9.9%. The company further improved on its underwriting performance and the overall impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Oman Insurance Company's underwriting performance for 2020 was broadly neutral. Oman Insurance Company's investment performance improved in 2020 with the company continuing to benefit from an increase in its free cash flows generated from the robust credit management strategy. AM Best expects operating performance to remain strong prospectively, supported by disciplined underwriting and stable investment results. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,831.24	0.9	3.5	(3.5)
Silver/Ounce	27.45	0.5	5.9	4.0
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	68.28	0.3	1.5	31.8
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	64.90	0.3	2.1	33.8
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.90	0.0	1.0	21.3
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	79.50	(0.8)	(2.5)	5.6
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	83.00	0.0	(1.5)	19.4
Euro	1.22	0.8	1.2	(0.4)
Yen	108.60	(0.4)	(0.6)	5.2
GBP	1.40	0.7	1.2	2.3
CHF	1.11	0.7	1.4	(1.8)
AUD	0.78	0.8	1.7	1.9
USD Index	90.23	(0.8)	(1.1)	0.3
RUB	73.79	(0.6)	(1.9)	(0.8)
BRL	0.19	0.7	3.8	(0.8)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	2,979.41	0.9	1.4	10.8
DJ Industrial	34,777.76	0.7	2.7	13.6
S&P 500	4,232.60	0.7	1.2	12.7
NASDAQ 100	13,752.24	0.9	(1.5)	6.7
STOXX 600	444.93	1.7	2.8	10.8
DAX	15,399.65	2.2	2.8	11.0
FTSE 100	7,129.71	1.4	3.4	13.0
CAC 40	6,385.51	1.3	2.9	14.3
Nikkei	29,357.82	0.5	2.5	1.6
MSCI EM	1,348.57	0.6	0.1	4.4
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,418.87	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.1)
HANG SENG	28,610.65	(0.1)	(0.4)	4.9
BSE SENSEX	49,206.47	1.0	1.9	2.7
Bovespa	122,038.10	3.2	6.5	1.5
RTS	1,577.51	1.7	6.2	13.7

Source: Bloomberg(*\$ adjusted returns)

Contacts

QNB Financial Services Co. W.L.L.

Contact Center: (+974) 4476 6666

info@qnbfs.com.qa

Doha, Qatar

Saugata Sarkar, CFA, CAIA

Head of Research

saugata.sarkar@qnbfs.com.qa

ShahanKeushgerian

Senior Research Analyst

shahan.keushgerian@qnbfs.com.qa

Mehmet Aksoy, PhD

Senior Research Analyst

mehmet.aksoy@qnbfs.com.qa

Disclaimer and Copyright Notice: This publication has been prepared by QNB Financial Services Co. W.L.L. ("QNBFS") a wholly-owned subsidiary of Qatar National Bank (Q.P.S.C.). QNBFS is regulated by the Qatar Financial Markets Authority and the Qatar Exchange. Qatar National Bank (Q.P.S.C.) is regulated by the Qatar Central Bank. This publication expresses the views and opinions of QNBFS at a given time only. It is not an offer, promotion or recommendation to buy or sell securities or other investments, nor is it intended to constitute legal, tax, accounting, or financial advice. QNBFS accepts no liability whatsoever for any direct or indirect losses arising from use of this report. Any investment decision should depend on the individual circumstances of the investor and be based on specifically engaged investment advice. We therefore strongly advise potential investors to seek independent professional advice before making any investment decision. Although the information in this report has been obtained from sources that QNBFS believes to be reliable, we have not independently verified such information and it may not be accurate or complete. QNBFS does not make any representations or warranties as to the accuracy and completeness of the information it may contain, and declines any liability in that respect. For reports dealing with Technical Analysis, expressed opinions and/or recommendations may be different or contrary to the opinions/recommendations of QNBFS Fundamental Research as a result of depending solely on the historical technical data (price and volume). QNBFS reserves the right to amend the views and opinions expressed in this publication at any time. It may also express viewpoints or make investment decisions that differ significantly from, or even contradict, the views and opinions included in this report. This report may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission from QNBFS.

COPYRIGHT: No part of this document may be reproduced without the explicit written permission of QNBFS