

Weekly 8 April 2018

Equity Weekly

Global Equities

Global equities closed lower as investors' saw measures and counter-measures declared by the US and China on the trade front. The worry for investors appears to lack of strategy in these measures and little clarity on when and if a negotiated settlement can be reached between the two countries. Mixed economic data from the US and the Eurozone added to the uncertainty. The MSCI World index dropped -0.7% 5d amid weakness in the MSCI G7 index (-0.8% 5d) and the MSCI EM index (-0.8% 5d). Volatility rose in the US with the VIX index adding +7.6% 5d to remain above the 20.0 level but dropped in Europe and remained flat in emerging markets.

With the 'trade tantrum' starting to have an impact, the Q1 2018 corporate earnings season starting this week becomes all the more important. Investors' would be keen to confirm that the strongest pillar of support i.e., earnings continues to provide buffer against political uncertainties. Regionally, flows are likely to be driven by expectations of further foreign investor inflows into the region.

Chart of the week

With the current focus on the US-China trade disputes, it is not surprising to see stocks with exposure to China taking a hit. The MSCI World with China exposure index has declined to its lowest level since October 2017. The index reflects the performance of companies with significant exposure to China regardless of domicile by deriving a company's economic exposure using the geographic distribution of its revenues.



Source: Bloomberg

MENA Markets

It was a mixed week of trading for MENA equities as flows continued to be driven by measures taken by different bourses to attract foreign investor inflows. The Qatar Exchange index added +2.6% 5d and the Tadawul gained +1.1% 5d while the DFM index lost -0.8% 5d.

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Gains on the Qatar Exchange were driven by announcement from Qatar Petroleum that it will lift non-Qatari ownership limit in energy sector companies and its subsidiaries listed on the exchange to 49%. This drove sharp gains in Qatar Fuel (+8.1% 5d), Gulf International Services (+10.0% 5d) and Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Co (+4.8% 5d). It must be noted here that the changes need to be implemented fairly quickly so as to be eligible for weight gains in the MSCI May review.

Elsewhere, this was the first week of trading with changes in indices in Kuwait. The Boursa Kuwait Premier Market Price Return index dropped -3.1% as investors take time to get used to the changes. For the record, the market is now divided into three segments i.e., Premier, Main and Auction. The Premier index is composed of the largest and most liquid companies. The segmentation is designed to improve liquidity and transparency.

Developed Markets

It was a volatile week of trading for developed market equities as risk of a full-blown trade war between the US and China escalated. The past week saw both the US and China announce tariffs on each other's products without a deadline to implement them. The vagueness in announcements at the start of the week led investors to believe that these are mere posturing and that a negotiated solution is inevitable. However, US President Donald Trump doubled down with announcement of fresh tariffs towards the end of the week which exemplified the erratic nature of steps and exposed the lack of an end-game in a battle of high stakes.

A subdued non-farm payrolls data and comments from Fed Chairman Powell suggesting that Fed remains on track to hike three times this year added further uncertainties in investors' minds. Eventually, the S&P 500 index -1.4% w-o-w while the Nikkei index and the Euro Stoxx 600 index added +0.5% w-o-w and +1.1% w-o-w. Much of the outperformance of non-US developed market equities can be put down to fact that most investors expect Europe to avoid getting caught in the US-China crossfire. The correlation between the Stoxx 600 index and the S&P 500 index is at its lowest since 2006.

Emerging Markets

Emerging market equities performed in line with broader equity markets with the MSCI EM index losing -0.8% 5d. It was a truncated week of trading for Chinese equities which were the focus of trade measures taken by the US. The Shanghai Composite index dropped -1.2% w-o-w with investors still to react to the latest measures announced by the US towards the end of the week.

India's Nifty index added +2.2% 5d to outperform emerging market peers. The market received a boost from the Reserve Bank of India which left interest rates unchanged at 6.0%. While the central bank reiterated a neutral stance, it lowered its inflation forecasts considerably. Inflation for H1 FY 2019 is now expected to range between 4.7%-5.1% compared to earlier forecast of 5.1% - 5.6%. The forecast for inflation in H2 FY 2019 was also lowered by 20 bps. Having said that, the monetary policy committee continued to highlight upside risks to inflation on account of increased farm price support and possibility of a fiscal slippage by the government. Overall, the stance by the RBI reaffirms our view that the central bank is expected to be on a prolonged pause with no change in policy rate expected in 2018.



Market Data

MENA Equity Indices										
Index	Last Price	wtd % chg	T.Value 5d avg (USDmn)	BEst P/E	BEst P/B	Div Yield	% above 200d MA			
DFM	3,083	-0.8%	44.6	8.0	1.1	5.9	27.78			
ADX	4,689	2.2%	35.1	11.3	1.5	5.2	44.07			
Tadawul	7,953	1.0%	1,319.7	14.6	1.7	3.2	58.86			
ISE 100	114,738	0.0%	1,523.9	8.2	1.2	3.4	58.16			
EGX 30	17,411	-0.2%	106.0	14.0	2.4	1.9	90.00			
Kuwait Premier	4,794	-3.1%	31.2	12.7	1.4	4.0	40.00			
Bahrain	1,283	-2.7%	0.5	-	-	6.4	-			
MSM	4,799	0.5%	10.0	10.1	0.9	5.0	60.00			
Qatar Exchange	8,793	2.6%	52.1	12.2	1.4	5.0	63.16			
MADEX	10,450	-1.7%	16.1	18.6	2.6	3.7	57.78			
TUSISE	7,141	0.6%	2.1	23.0	-	1.9	75.00			
Developed M	Market Indice	es								
Dow Jones	23,933	-0.7%	9,745.7	16.2	3.7	2.4	63.33			
S&P 500	2,604	-1.4%	48,986.2	16.7	3.0	2.1	53.00			
Nasdaq	6,915	-2.1%	34,232.1	21.1	3.9	1.1	49.40			
FTSE 100	7,184	1.8%	6,654.7	13.6	1.8	4.4	41.58			
Dax	12,241	1.2%	5,351.7	12.7	1.6	3.2	37.93			
Cac 40	5,258	1.8%	4,740.9	14.5	1.5	3.4	42.50			
Swiss	8,671	-0.8%	3,357.2	15.2	2.2	3.7	40.00			
Nikkei	21,568	0.5%	12,335.1	15.6	1.6	2.0	44.00			
Australia	5,789	0.5%	3,503.0	15.5	1.9	4.6	53.54			
Stoxx 600	375	1.1%	35,321.3	14.5	1.8	3.6	48.49			
Emerging Ma	arket Indices	5								
Hong Kong	29,845	-0.8%	6,515.5	11.5	1.3	3.5	59.18			
Shanghai	3,131	-1.2%	32,279.2	12.2	1.4	1.9	-			
Korea	2,430	-0.7%	7,038.2	9.5	1.0	1.6	42.84			
Sensex	33,627	2.0%	77.9	17.8	2.6	1.2	48.39			
Nifty	10,332	2.2%	1,681.6	17.3	2.6	1.3	48.00			
Karachi	46,638	2.4%	87.6	10.3	1.6	5.0	61.96			
Taiwan	10,821	-0.9%	3,345.8	13.9	1.8	3.7	-			
Bovespa	84,820	-0.6%	2,369.4	13.2	1.7	2.9	70.97			
Jo'burg	55,879	0.7%	2,024.2	14.6	1.9	3.2	52.80			
Vietnam	1,200	2.2%	272.1	20.2	3.6	1.8	45.98			
Jakarta	6,175	-0.2%	338.1	15.7	2.4	2.1	53.57			

Source: Bloomberg, BEst – Bloomberg Estimate



Relative Valuations

MSCI World MSCI G7 MSCI EM MSCI FM S&P Pan Arab DUAE INDEX DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM ADX	2,053 1,859 1,162 662 735 3,253 3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151 RP Pan Ara PE	-0.7% -0.8% -0.6% 0.4% 0.4% -3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	-4.5% -4.7% -3.7% -0.7% 3.3% -2.2% -2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	-2.4% -2.3% 0.3% 3.8% 7.2% -2.3% 1.8% 3.6% 0.5% 0.4%	15.66 15.72 12.17 12.84 13.11 9.95 - 11.44 15.16	2.17 2.25 1.58 1.94 1.53 1.25 - 1.54 1.79 1.60	2.45 2.28 2.42 3.20 3.91 5.75 - 4.58 2.50
MSCI EM MSCI FM S&P Pan Arab DUAE INDEX DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	1,162 662 735 3,253 3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151	-0.8% -0.6% 0.4% 0.4% -3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	-3.7% -0.7% 3.3% -2.2% -2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	0.3% 3.8% 7.2% -2.3% 1.8% 3.6% 0.5%	12.17 12.84 13.11 9.95 - 11.44 15.16	1.58 1.94 1.53 1.25 - 1.54 1.79	2.42 3.20 3.91 5.75 - 4.58
MSCI FM S&P Pan Arab DUAE INDEX DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	662 735 3,253 3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151 &P Pan Ara	-0.6% 0.4% 0.4% -3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	-0.7% 3.3% -2.2% -2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	3.8% 7.2% -2.3% 1.8% 3.6% 0.5%	12.84 13.11 9.95 - 11.44 15.16	1.94 1.53 1.25 - 1.54 1.79	3.20 3.91 5.75 - 4.58
S&P Pan Arab DUAE INDEX DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S&Index DFM	735 3,253 3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151 AP Pan Ara	0.4% 0.4% -3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	3.3% -2.2% -2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	7.2% -2.3% 1.8% 3.6% 0.5%	13.11 9.95 - 11.44 15.16	1.53 1.25 - 1.54 1.79	3.91 5.75 - 4.58
DUAE INDEX DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	3,253 3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151 kP Pan Ara	0.4% -3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	-2.2% -2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	-2.3% 1.8% 3.6% 0.5%	9.95 - 11.44 15.16	1.25 - 1.54 1.79	5.75 - 4.58
DKUW INDEX DQAT INDEX DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	3,471 5,504 2,815 7,151 &P Pan Ara	-3.7% 4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	-2.5% 9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	1.8% 3.6% 0.5%	- 11.44 15.16	- 1.54 1.79	- 4.58
DQAT INDEX DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	5,504 2,815 7,151 AP Pan Ara	4.0% -3.2% 2.2%	9.6% -2.8% 1.6%	3.6% 0.5%	15.16	1.79	
DKUS INDEX DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	2,815 7,151 kP Pan Ara	-3.2% 2.2%	-2.8% 1.6%	0.5%	15.16	1.79	
DQAS INDEX Relative to S& Index DFM	7,151 RP Pan Ara	2.2%	1.6%				2.50
Relative to S&	RP Pan Ara			0.4%	12.81	1.60	
Index DFM		b Composi	te Index				5.23
DFM	PE						
		РВ	Dvd Yield	Index	PE	РВ	Dvd Yield
ADX	-38.7%	-29.9%	51.3%	Bahrain	-	-	62.8%
	-13.6%	-3.4%	32.0%	MSM	-22.8%	-41.9%	27.7%
Tadawul	11.7%	10.0%	-17.0%	Qatar	-7.0%	-10.7%	27.9%
Kuwait Premier	-3.2%	-9.4%	1.5%	TUSISE	75.5%	-	-50.3%
Relative to MS	SCI G7 Ind	ex					
Dow Jones	3.1%	62.2%	3.2%	Cac 40	-7.9%	-32.4%	47.6%
S&P 500	6.2%	31.6%	-10.0%	Swiss	-3.1%	-0.6%	62.5%
Nasdaq	34.3%	75.1%	-50.8%	Nikkei	-0.6%	-27.8%	-12.6%
FTSE 100	-13.6%	-20.9%	93.3%	Australia	-1.4%	-15.9%	99.9%
Dax	-19.1%	-28.9%	42.3%	Stoxx 600	-8.0%	-21.7%	59.9%
		Relative	to MSCI Em	nerging Mark	cet Index		
Hong Kong	-5.4%	-20.4%	43.8%	Jo'burg	20.4%	18.4%	32.6%
Shanghai	0.2%	-9.4%	-19.6%	Vietnam	66.0%	127.6%	-26.9%
Korea	-22.3%	-34.8%	-32.4%	Jakarta	29.3%	50.7%	-14.7%
Sensex	46.5%	66.7%	-51.9%				
Nifty	42.2%	65.2%	-46.6%				
Karachi	-15.0%	3.6%	106.7%				
Taiwan	14.0%	13.0%	53.7%				

Source: Bloomberg, BEst – Bloomberg Estimate



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