

Wednesday, 09 August

### **QSE Intra-Day Movement**



### **Qatar Commentary**

The QE Index declined 1.1% to close at 10,686.0. Losses were led by the Industrials and Banks & Financial Services indices, falling 2.1% and 0.9%, respectively. Top losers were Industries Qatar and QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co., falling 3.5% and 3.4%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co. gained 9.9%, while Inma Holding was up 3.2%.

### **GCC** Commentary

Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell 0.2% to close at 11,244.3. Losses were led by the Health Care Equipment & Svc and Diversified Financials indices, falling 6.5% and 2.8%, respectively. Mouwasat Medical Services Co. declined 8.9%, while Development Works Food Co. was down 4.1%.

*Dubai:* The DFM Index fell marginally to close at 4,077.7. The Consumer Discretionary Index declined 1.2%, while the Consumer Staples Index fell 0.8%. Dubai National Insurance & Reinsurance declined 6.3%, while Takaful Emarat was down 4.8%.

*Abu Dhabi:* The ADX General Index gained 1.7% to close at 9,989.8. The Health Care index rose 4.0%, while the Industrial index gained 3.2%. Abu Dhabi National Co. For Building Materials rose 14.9%, while Burjeel Holdings was up 5.9%.

*Kuwait:* The Kuwait All Share Index fell 0.2% to close at 7,187. The Consumer Staples index declined 2.9%, while the Health Care index fell 1.3%. Al Masaken International Real Estate Development declined 11.0%, while First Dubai for Real Estate Development Co was down 9.4%.

*Oman:* The MSM 30 Index fell 0.3% to close at 4,761.5. Losses were led by the Financial and Services indices, falling 0.7% and 0.3%, respectively. Taageer Finance declined 5.4%, while Global Financial Investments was down 3.3%.

*Bahrain:* The BHB Index fell marginally to close at 1,975.6. The Consumer Staples Index declined 2.6%, while the Financials Index fell 0.1%. Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company declined 4.6%, while BMMI was down 3.7%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co.	1.582	9.9	14,711.6	38.5
Inma Holding	5.144	3.2	472.6	25.2
Widam Food Company	2.362	2.3	1,227.7	16.2
Ooredoo	11.33	1.9	746.3	23.2
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	2.423	1.8	2,125.0	92.8
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QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co.	1.582	9.9	14,711.6	38.5
Dukhan Bank	4.199	(0.0)	11,779.9	0.0
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co.	1.335	(0.4)	10,364.3	(12.2)
Masraf Al Rayan	2.489	(1.0)	9,057.5	(21.5)

0.810

(1.2)

8,354.6

Market Indicators	08 Aug 23	07 Aug 23	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	392.7	334.6	17.4
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	629,651.7	635,025.2	(0.8)
Volume (mn)	124.5	110.1	13.1
Number of Transactions	15,669	14,597	7.3
Companies Traded	50	49	2.0
Market Breadth	12:32	17:24	-
Market Indices	Close 1D%	WTD% Y	TD% TTM P/E

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	22,933.72	(1.1)	(1.0)	4.8	13.2
All Share Index	3,601.20	(0.9)	(1.0)	5.4	13.5
Banks	4,507.71	(0.9)	(0.2)	2.8	14.4
Industrials	4,042.25	(2.1)	(3.1)	6.9	13.8
Transportation	4,653.78	(0.3)	(1.2)	7.3	12.0
Real Estate	1,587.37	(0.8)	(1.7)	1.8	12.6
Insurance	2,334.56	(0.3)	(0.8)	6.8	178.7
Telecoms	1,690.26	1.5	(0.7)	28.2	13.2
Consumer Goods and Services	7,861.49	(0.2)	0.1	(0.7)	22.6
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,703.16	(1.1)	(1.1)	2.4	9.3

GCC Top Gainers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
National Marine Dredging Co	Abu Dhabi	21.60	2.9	994.0	(11.8)
Ooredoo	Qatar	11.33	1.9	746.3	23.2
Power & Water Utility Co	Saudi Arabia	73.60	1.5	1,053.0	56.9
National Shipping Co.	Saudi Arabia	21.88	0.9	1,049.9	11.3
Ooredoo Oman	Oman	0.37	0.8	1,000.0	(15.2)

Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Saudi Arabia	42.80	(2.7)	1,415.2	2.9
Saudi Arabia	39.60	(2.2)	538.9	44.3
Qatar	10.03	(2.0)	450.6	(3.6)
Qatar	2.71	(2.0)	1,869.5	(5.6)
Abu Dhabi	4.05	(1.9)	4,707.5	36.4
	Saudi Arabia Saudi Arabia Qatar Qatar	Saudi Arabia42.80Saudi Arabia39.60Qatar10.03Qatar2.71	Saudi Arabia         42.80         (2.7)           Saudi Arabia         39.60         (2.2)           Qatar         10.03         (2.0)           Qatar         2.71         (2.0)	Saudi Arabia         42.80         (2.7)         1,415.2           Saudi Arabia         39.60         (2.2)         538.9           Qatar         10.03         (2.0)         450.6           Qatar         2.71         (2.0)         1,869.5

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%
Industries Qatar	13.03	(3.5)	2,542.3	1.7
QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co.	2.800	(3.4)	16.5	(41.7)
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.746	(2.1)	4,887.8	21.5
National Leasing	0.849	(2.1)	5,493.7	20.6
Qatar International Islamic Bank	10.03	(2.0)	450.6	(3.6)
QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	16.85	(0.3)	53,981.9	(6.4)
Dukhan Bank	4.199	(0.0)	49,428.4	0.0
Industries Qatar	13.03	(3.5)	33,579.6	1.7
Qatar Islamic Bank	20.03	(1.8)	30,981.7	7.9
Masraf Al Rayan	2.489	(1.0)	22,648.6	(21.5)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,686.03	(1.1)	(1.0)	(2.5)	0.0	108.08	172,146.8	13.2	1.4	4.6
Dubai	4,077.73	(0.0)	0.7	0.5	22.2	133.89	187,334.6	9.3	1.3	4.3
Abu Dhabi	9,989.84	1.7	2.1	2.1	(2.2)	400.56	755,609.0	33.1	3.1	1.7
Saudi Arabia	11,244.27	(0.2)	(1.2)	(3.8)	7.3	1,700.77	2,936,727.9	17.6	2.2	3.3
Kuwait	7,186.99	(0.2)	0.6	(0.9)	(1.4)	166.44	149,207.9	17.7	1.5	3.7
Oman	4,761.52	(0.3)	(0.5)	(0.3)	(2.0)	7.72	23,263.6	13.0	0.9	4.6
Bahrain	1,975.59	(0.0)	(0.3)	(0.8)	4.2	5.71	56,454.3	7.0	0.7	7.7

16.4

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



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#### **Qatar Market Commentary**

- The QE Index declined 1.1% to close at 10,686.0. The Industrials and Banks & Financial Services indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from non-Qatari shareholders despite buying support from Qatari shareholders.
- Industries Qatar and QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co. were the top losers, falling 3.5% and 3.4%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co. gained 9.9%, while Inma Holding was up 3.2%.
- Volume of shares traded on Tuesday rose by 13.1% to 124.5mn from 110.1mn on Monday. However, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 170mn, volume for the day was 26.7% lower. Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co. and Dukhaan Bank were the most active stocks, contributing 11.8% and 9.5% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	31.91%	26.96%	19,409,401.42
Qatari Institutions	27.76%	26.56%	4,716,855.45
Qatari	59.66%	53.52%	24,126,256.87
GCC Individuals	0.76%	0.38%	1,478,208.04
GCC Institutions	1.64%	2.02%	(1,501,982.06)
GCC	2.40%	2.40%	(23,774.03)
Arab Individuals	9.52%	10.98%	(5,759,380.46)
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
Arab	9.52%	10.98%	(5,759,380.46)
Foreigners Individuals	1.83%	1.94%	(444,345.39)
Foreigners Institutions	26.60%	31.15%	(17,898,757.00)
Foreigners	28.42%	33.10%	(18,343,102.39)

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

### **Global Economic Data and Earnings Calendar**

#### **Global Economic Data**

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Date	Market	Source Indicator		Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
08-08	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Wholesale Inventories MoM	Jun	-0.50%	-0.30%	-0.30%
08-08	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Wholesale Trade Sales MoM	Jun	-0.70%	-0.20%	-0.50%
08-08	US	Nat'l Fed. of Ind. Business	NFIB Small Business Optimism	Jul	91.90	91.30	91.00
08-08	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	СРІ МоМ	Jul	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%
08-08	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	СРІ УоУ	Jul	6.20%	6.20%	6.20%
08-08	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	CPI EU Harmonized MoM	Jul	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
08-08	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	CPI EU Harmonized YoY	Jul	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%
08-08	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Exports YoY	Jul	-14.50%	-13.20%	-12.40%
08-08	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Imports YoY	Jul	-12.40%	-5.60%	-6.80%

### Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting HY2023 results	No. of days remaining	Status
QFBQ	Lesha Bank	09-Aug-23	0	Due
MPHC	Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Company	09-Aug-23	0	Due
SIIS	Salam International Investment Limited	09-Aug-23	0	Due
ERES	Ezdan Holding Group	10-Aug-23	1	Due
QAMC	Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Company	10-Aug-23	1	Due
QGMD	Qatari German Company for Medical Devices	10-Aug-23	1	Due
MERS	Al Meera Consumer Goods Company	13-Aug-23	4	Due
MRDS	Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Development	13-Aug-23	4	Due
WDAM	Widam Food Company	13-Aug-23	4	Due
GISS	Gulf International Services	13-Aug-23	4	Due
QCFS	Qatar Cinema & Film Distribution Company	13-Aug-23	4	Due
QATI	Qatar Insurance Company	14-Aug-23	5	Due
ZHCD	Zad Holding Company	14-Aug-23	5	Due
MCCS	Mannai Corporation	14-Aug-23	5	Due
DOHI	Doha Insurance	14-Aug-23	5	Due
QLMI	QLM Life & Medical Insurance Company	14-Aug-23	5	Due



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#### Qatar

- IQCD's net profit declines 66.2% YoY and 20.9% QoQ in 2Q2023, misses our estimate - Industries Qatar's (IQCD) net profit declined 66.2% YoY (-20.9% QoQ) to QR922.2mn in 2Q2023, missing our estimate of QR987.5mn (variation of -6.6%). The company's revenue came in at QR2,634.6mn in 2Q2023, which represents a decrease of 48.7% YoY (-24.0% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.35 in 6M2023 as compared to QR0.90 in 6M2022. (QNBFS, QSE)
- QIGD posts 25.3% YoY increase but 13.5% QoQ decline in net profit in 2Q2023 Qatari Investors Group 's (QIGD) net profit rose 25.3% YoY (but declined 13.5% on QoQ basis) to QR47.1mn in 2Q2023. The company's revenue came in at QR132.9mn in 2Q2023, which represents a decrease of 26.1% YoY (-1.3% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.08 in 6M2023 as compared to QR0.10 in 6M2022. (QSE)
- QISI's bottom line rises 36.3% YoY and 19.2% QoQ in 2Q2023 Qatar Islamic Insurance Company's (QISI) net profit rose 36.3% YoY (+19.2% QoQ) to QR34.9mn in 2Q2023. The company's total revenues came in at QR51.4mn in 2Q2023, which represents an increase of 28.8% YoY (+1.1% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.23 in 2Q2023 as compared to QR0.17 in 2Q2022. (QSE)
- BEMA's bottom line rises 7.3% YoY and 43.9% QoQ in 2Q2023 Damaan Islamic Insurance Company's (BEMA) net profit rose 7.3% YoY (+43.9% QoQ) to QR19.7mn in 2Q2023. The company's total income came in at QR33.5mn in 2Q2023, which represents an increase of 13.3% YoY (+21.8% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR 0.167 in 6M2023 as compared to QR0.160 in 6M2022. (QSE)
- S&P: Qatar's Islamic insurance sector GCC's 'most profitable' market in 2022 - Qatar's takaful (Islamic insurance) sector remained the GCC's most profitable market, with insurers reporting an average combined loss and expense ratio of lower than 80% in 2022, S&P Global Ratings has said in a report. Aggregate post-tax earnings in of GCC Islamic insurers improved by almost 70% in 2022 when compared with 2021. First-quarter 2023 results suggest it could be another profitable year, thanks to rate adjustments in previously underperforming lines and potentially stronger investment returns, S&P noted. However, earnings were not equal and some Islamic insurance markets continued to be more profitable than others, it said. S&P expects favorable economic conditions and higher insurance prices--reflecting increased claims frequency and costs and demand will boost business growth prospects for takaful insurers in the GCC over the next 12-18 months. This, it said, comes after strong year-onyear gross written premium/contribution (GWP/C) growth of about 23% in 2022. Some Islamic insurers in GCC countries adopted IFRS 17 from January 1 this year with most remaining insurers likely to adopt on the same date next year. IFRS 17 requires a company to measure insurance contracts using updated estimates and assumptions that reflect the timing of cash flows and any uncertainty relating to insurance contracts. "We believe the adoption of IFRS 17 will improve transparency, making it easier to identify and compare insurers' profit generation and risk management. While the implementation presents new challenges for all insurers in the region, including Islamic insurers, we expect our ratings on them to remain broadly stable. "However, any significant implementation delays or inconsistencies in financial reporting standards could lead to negative rating actions in isolated cases," S&P said. Across the GCC region, S&P still sees substantial differences in insurers' level of preparedness for IFRS 17. Many smaller and midsize Islamic insurers yet to implement will likely encounter difficulties given the lack of resources. This is because IFRS 17 requires internal process and IT system updates, resulting in additional costs and time constraints. Alongside high competition and other increasing regulatory demands, this has already led to several mergers, with more likely to come. Consolidation is particularly prevalent among smaller and midsize insurers in Saudi Arabia and the UAE. "Although we do not currently expect any significant delays or inconsistencies in the adoption of IFRS 17 among rated GCC Islamic insurers, we think that such eventualities could potentially lead to negative rating actions in isolated cases," S&P noted. (Gulf Times)
- Retail rental rates to decline in 2023 Qatar's retail industry anticipates a decrease in rental rates in the fourth-coming quarters of the year, stated

ValuStrat in its recent report. "It is expected that market corrections, with soft declines in median rental rates, will continue through the end of the year, particularly in the organized retail sector," the report noted. During the first quarter of the year, the stock of organized retail space came up to 2.4mn sq m GLA, in addition to the Aventura Mall, which totaled 11,000 sq m Gross Leasable Area (GLA) in its previous quarters. However, the report highlights that there is only one mall in the pipeline for this year, which is located in The Pearl Qatar, La Plage Mall with 40,000 sq m GLA. The market also witnessed major regional and international food and beverage and fashion brands extending their branches in Abu Sidra Mall, such as Babyshop, Splash, and Lifestyle. The opening of West Walk in the Al Waab area also witnessed significant food and beverage outlets, including Starbucks, Khashoka, Karazi, and SASSO among others, the report said adding that nearly 25 more shops will be launched in the coming months. Recently, Rawabi Hyper-market opened the largest single-floor hypermarket in Izghawa. Meanwhile, Al Meera launched a new fully autonomous branch in Aspire Park. ValuStrat accentuated that "The median monthly rent for shopping centers across the country decreased during the first quarter of this year to QR200 per sq m, signaling a 4.8% decline in QoQ and a 7% reduction compared to the same period in 2022. Qatar's Malls on the other hand continued to experience increased footfall as they took part in main leisure activities like Shop Qatar 2023 and several other festivities in the lead-up to Ramadan and Eid 2023. "The median monthly asking rent for street retail within Doha remained stable quarterly at QR154 per sqm, down 3.8% YoY," the report added. Correspondingly, the median monthly asking rent for street retail outside Doha municipality has stabilized at QR146 per sqm, receding 1.4% during Q4 2022 and Q1 2023. (Peninsula Qatar)

Report: Residential sector one of biggest beneficiaries of Qatar 2022 - The residential sector was arguably one of the biggest beneficiaries of Qatar's hosting of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, creating an estimated 850,000 new jobs between 2010 and 2022, according to a recent report. The 'Destination Qatar 2023' issued by UK-headquartered Knight Frank, one of the world's leading independent real estate consultancies, noted that the influx of expatriate workers, which helped the country's population swell by 60% to an estimated 2.9mn at the end of 2022 (Qatar Planning and Statistics Authority), has placed upward pressure on rents, with some districts in Doha registering rent rises of 25-30% in the last 12 months. The prime residential leasing market for apartments has seen yearly rents grow by 22% during 2022 to an average of about QR12,300, with threebedroom apartments at The Pearl commanding the highest lease rates, the report added. Qatar became the first Arab and Middle East country to host the global football event, which took place from November 20 to December 18, 2022, with a combined total of 3.4mn spectators enjoying the spectacular views from inside the eight stadiums used for the tournament. The Knight Frank's 2023 Destination Qatar survey was carried out in partnership with YouGov, and it was designed to measure and understand domestic appetite to invest and own real estate in Qatar. The report noted that the appetite for home ownership in Qatar received a powerful boost after March 2019, when property rights were extended to international investors. However, the outbreak of the pandemic, coupled with rising demand ahead of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, dampened the buying appetite. "Indeed, transaction volumes in 2022 were 23% lower than in 2021. However, in the wake of the World Cup, the euphoria surrounding the tournament helped improve overall sentiment. 30% of the high-net-worth individuals (HNWI) sample are interested in buying a residential property in 2023. A further 33% are looking to buy within the next 2-3 years and a further 20% are looking to buy a residential property within the next four to five years. The report noted that Lusail was the most preferred residential property acquisition location by most of the HNWI respondents to the survey, with 71% of them already owning a home there. Additionally, Lusail Marina and Lusail Waterfront were identified as the two most preferred locations for residential real estate acquisition." Lusail's proximity to Doha means it is viewed as a 'city within a city'. Lusail comprises 19 mixed-use entertainment, business, and residential zones, as well as four islands and a lagoon with two marinas. 25,000 residential structures are also due to be completed in Lusail, including high-rise towers as well as stand-alone family homes. Generally, hosting the 2022 FIFA World Cup has been eco-nomically beneficial for Qatar, as the country sees an increase in gross domestic



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product (GDP) with the retail and hospitality sectors growing. (Peninsula Qatar)

CRA quality of service audit rates Ooredoo, Vodafone high - The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) yesterday published a summary report presenting the results of its extensive audit conducted in 2022, evaluating the quality of mobile networks in the State of Qatar. CRA conducted the audit to assess the improvements in the Quality of Service (QoS) levels offered by the telecom service providers Ooredoo Qatar QPSC and Vodafone Qatar PQSC. The audit was conducted before the start of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, spanning from June to October 2022, with daily coverage. CRA used its QoS systems with the latest versions of devices and smartphones, to obtain results that reflect the experience of mobile telecom consumers in Qatar. The audit was conducted in various areas in the country, it covered main roads, frequently accessed off-road routes popular in camping and fishing seasons, as well as official venues of the tournament. The QoS audit bench-marked some of the related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of the services provided by the service providers, which align with the standards and conditions outlined in the licenses granted to them by CRA, as well as the applicable regulatory framework. The audit encompassed various services such as voice calls, short message service (SMS), and data services, including the services provided through the fifth generation (5G) network. According to the audit's results, the providers continue to maintain high standards of accessibility, retainability, and integrity of the services provided to their customers. Additionally, they have made significant improvements in providing better data throughput to a wider environment compared to the previous year. Moreover, leveraging the enhanced 5G ecosystem, the Service Providers showcased their networks' ability to deliver high download speeds. Prior to the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, CRA assigned additional 5G spectrum to the service providers, including the Millimeter (mm) wave spectrum, which revolutionized mobile broadband performance in Qatar. The audit's results demonstrated the readiness of both Service Providers' networks to provide superior mobile coverage and QoS that meet the high data demands during the tournament. CRA affirms that the purpose of the QoS audit of the mobile networks was not to identify the best network or make a comparison between the Service Providers. CRA emphasizes that the audit's findings should not be used for any purpose that does not serve the main objective and the intended value of the report, such as promoting the best Service Provider or taking parts of the report to be used in a way that it may abuse another Service Provider or in a way that may be misleading or inaccurate, considering the audit's scope. (Peninsula Qatar)

### International

Moody's downgrades US banks, warns of possible cuts to others -  ${\rm Moody}$  's cut credit ratings of several small to mid-sized US banks on Monday and said it may downgrade some of the nation's biggest lenders, warning that the sector's credit strength will likely be tested by funding risks and weaker profitability. Moody's cut the ratings of 10 banks by one notch and placed six banking giants, including Bank of New York Mellon, US Bancorp, State Street and Truist Financial on review for potential downgrades. "Many banks' second-quarter results showed growing profitability pressures that will reduce their ability to generate internal capital," Moody's said in a note. "This comes as a mild US recession is on the horizon for early 2024 and asset quality looks set to decline, with particular risks in some banks' commercial real estate (CRE)portfolios." Moody's said elevated CRE exposures are a key risk due to high interest rates, declines in office demand as a result of remote work, and a reduction in the availability of CRE credit. The agency also changed its outlook to negative for eleven major lenders, including Capital One, Citizens Financial and Fifth Third Bancorp. The collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank earlier this year sparked a crisis of confidence in the US banking sector, leading to a run-on deposits at a host of regional banks despite authorities launching emergency measures to shore up confidence. Still, Moody's cautioned that banks with sizable unrealized losses that are not reflected in their regulatory capital ratios are vulnerable to a loss of confidence in the current high-rate environment. The sweeping report comes against the backdrop of tightening monetary conditions after the fastest pace of interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve in decades slows demand and borrowing. The higher rates have

also raised the specter of recession and put pressure on sectors such as real estate to adjust to post-pandemic realities. Federal Reserve survey data released last week showed US banks reported tighter credit standards and weaker loan demand from both businesses and consumers during the second quarter. Morgan Stanley analysts said the loan demand is likely to continue to weaken, with the rate of change slowing further. Rating agency peer Fitch has downgraded the United States by a notch to AA+ due to fiscal deterioration over the next three years and repeated downto-the-wire debt ceiling negotiations. The downgraded banks by Moody's include M&T Bank, Pinnacle Financial Partners, Prosperity Bank and BOK Financial Corp (Reuters)

- US credit card debt tops \$1tn, overall consumer debt little changed -Americans borrowed more than ever on their credit cards in the last quarter, the New York Federal Reserve Bank said on Tuesday, with balances surpassing \$1tn for the first time even as overall household debt loads were largely unchanged. Credit card balances rose by \$45bn to \$1.03tn in the second quarter, the regional Fed bank said in its latest quarterly household debt and credit report, reflecting robust consumer spending as well as higher prices due to inflation, researchers said. Household debt ticked up 0.1% to \$17.06tn, as mortgage balances - the biggest portion, and typically the biggest driver, of overall household debt - were largely unchanged. Meanwhile, credit card delinquencies are at an 11-year high, as measured using a four-quarter average, the data showed. But the quarter-to-quarter trend appeared less alarming, with New York Fed researchers noting a leveling out near pre-pandemic levels in the most recent two quarters. (Reuters)
- Declining imports compress US trade deficit in June The US trade deficit narrowed sharply in June as businesses cut back on purchases of foreignmade capital goods, resulting in imports falling to the lowest level in more than 1-1/2 years. The decline in imports reported by the Commerce Department on Tuesday potentially signals a slowdown in business investment and overall domestic demand amid hefty interest rate hikes from the Federal Reserve. Imports are falling as businesses carefully manage inventory in anticipation of softer demand. That was underscored by other data showing a bigger decline in wholesale inventories in June than initially estimated. "Weakening consumer demand for goods and retreating inventory growth by businesses have softened imports this year, while exports continue to trend downward as the global economic backdrop softens," said Matthew Martin, a US economist at Oxford Economics. "We expect depressed trade flows through the remainder of the year." The trade deficit contracted 4.1% to \$65.5bn. Data for May was revised to show the trade gap narrowing to \$68.3bn instead of \$69.0bn as previously reported. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the trade deficit shrinking to \$65bn. The nation's goods trade deficit with China fell \$2.1bn to \$22.8bn, with imports tumbling \$2.3bn. That trend could continue as China reported on Tuesday a 14.5% plunge in exports on a year-on-year basis. Despite the narrowing in June, the US trade deficit average in the second quarter was higher than in the first three months of the year. (Reuters)
- US wholesale inventories revised lower in June US wholesale inventories fell more than initially estimated in June, which could have implications for the second-quarter gross domestic product estimate. The Commerce Department said on Tuesday that wholesale inventories dropped 0.5% instead of falling 0.3% as previously reported last month. Stocks at wholesalers declined 0.4% in May. Economists polled by Reuters had expected that inventories would be unrevised. Inventories are a key part of gross domestic product. They increased 1.3% on a year-on-year basis in June. (Reuters)
- NFIB: US small business confidence rises to 8-month high in July US small business confidence edged up to an eight-month high in July, as concerns about inflation fell to the lowest level in nearly two years, a report released on Tuesday showed. The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) said its Small Business Optimism Index rose nine-tenths of a point to 91.1 last month, hitting the highest level since November 2022. Disinflation in July appeared to resonate with small businesses as only 21% stated that inflation was their biggest concern the lowest reading since November 2021 and down 13 points from a year earlier. (Reuters)



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- NIESR: UK inflation to exceed BoE target for next 4 years The Bank of England will not succeed in returning inflation to its 2% target before 2028 at the earliest, according to forecasts from a leading academic think-tank which warned the British economy was succumbing to stagnation. The National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) forecast inflation will fall from 7.9% now to 5.2% by the end of 2023 but will be slower to drop thereafter, averaging just above the BoE's 2% target in 2025, 2026 and 2027. The economy would grow by a meagre 0.4% this year and 0.3% in 2024 - little changed from NIESR's growth forecasts three months ago of 0.3% and 0.6% for this year and next. "Inflation, political churn, a global economy slowdown, oil shocks, strikes - there are a lot of nouns there that are resonant with the 1970s," NIESR director Jagjit Chadha said. (Reuters)
- German inflation eases to 6.5% in July German inflation eased in July, the federal statistics office said on Tuesday, confirming preliminary data. German consumer prices, harmonized to compare with other European Union countries, increased by 6.5% on the year in July. This follows a 6.8% increase in June. (Reuters)

### Regional

- GCC sovereign wealth funds' assets under management grow to \$4tn -GCC sovereign wealth funds' assets under management have grown by 20% on average in the past two years to reach about \$4tn, driven by higher oil prices, according to a new report. This is the equivalent of about 37% of global SWF AUMs, data and research company S&P Global Market Intelligence said in a report on Tuesday. Their size is almost the equivalent of the sum of all the AUMs of Asia, Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa's SWFs, the company said. Among the world's 10 largest investments on behalf of state-owned investors during 2022, five were from GCC sovereign investors, with the UAE accounting for 62% of total capital deployed (through three funds, namely Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, Mubadala and ADQ), 28% from Saudi Arabia and 10% from Qatar, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence data. "GCC sovereign wealth funds have largely benefitted from external surpluses generated by the latest energy revenue windfall across the region to increase their global footprint and deepen their foray into global markets through diversified sectoral buys," said Jamil Naayem, principal economist for Mena at S&P Global Market Intelligence. "Although investments in large, advanced economies and prominent emerging markets are likely to continue in the next few years, GCC SWFs will also recycle part of the petrodollar inflows in peer Middle East and North African economies in need of external financing. Egypt and Turkey are a case in point." Gulf sovereign wealth funds are expected to become more active and play an even bigger role in global markets this year as they receive large capital injections derived from higher oil revenue, an annual industry report by Global SWF said in January. Of the top 10 most active sovereign investors in 2022, five were from the Gulf region, according to the industry specialist. Singapore's GIC led the top 10 list of state-owned investors, with \$40.3bn invested in 2022, 17% more than in 2021. It was followed by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund. SWFs of the region are utilizing part of the additional fund inflows to make strategic buys in advanced economies, mostly in the US and Europe (including the UK), the S&P data showed. (Bloomberg)
- EY: Mena witnesses 23 IPOs raise \$5.2bn in H1 The IPO (initial public offerings) activity in the Mena (Middle East and North Africa) region gathered momentum with as many as 13 maiden offers raising a total of \$1.8bn in the second quarter (Q2) of 2023, according to Ernst and Young (E&Y). "The Q2 of 2023 confirmed that Mena IPOs are not experiencing the downward trend witnessed globally. The UAE and Saudi Arabia continue to be the most active markets in the Mena region in terms of both the number and size of IPOs," said Brad Watson, EY Mena Strategy and Transactions Leader. Adnoc's second portfolio company listing in 2023 outpaced the global markets in terms of demand, it said, adding the Mena region continues to have strong economies and low debt; coupled with the reform and deregulation in the region, it continues to be an attractive environment for new listings. Overall, in the first half (H1) of 2023 the Mena IPO market registered a total of 23 IPOs (4% year-on-year decrease), all of which were in the Gulf Co-operation Council with total proceeds of \$5.2bn. While the general EMEIA region continues to see a significant

contraction in IPO values, the Mena region has a promising pipeline for the rest of the year, particularly from Saudi Arabia, EY said. So far, 23 Saudi companies have announced their listing plans on the Tadawul for the second half of 2023. Further afield, two companies in Egypt intend to list, indicating a strong pipeline of IPOs to come in the remainder of the year. The Mena IPO pipeline for H2 2023 and 2024 remains very healthy with several IPOs already announced in Saudi Arabia and multiple processes ongoing across the broader region, with further transactions planned in the UAE, Oman, Qatar, and Kuwait, according to Gregory Hughes, EY Mena IPO and Transaction Diligence Leader. "We see planned IPO activity across different sectors and from a combination of family business, state-backed enterprise and private equity stakeholders. Mena has been a bright spot in the much more subdued global IPO market, and we expect this to continue in the future, especially with international businesses also exploring listings in this region," he said. EY analysis shows that the global economic picture in H1 2023 was impacted by volatility in Opec and Brent crude prices, which rose in January and February 2023 before falling sharply around mid-March 2023. The rise in January was due to the stronger-than-expected growth in China's economy, which boosted demand for oil. The fall in March led to concerns about a global recession and expectations of higher interest rates. Oil prices rebounded in April 2023 as the financial market stabilized and expectations of higher interest rates eased. Opec+ announced production cuts in early April, which provided further support to prices. Crude oil prices witnessed relatively less volatility in June with prices settling at lower levels of \$71 per barrel to \$77 as concerns on the global economy weighed on demand. However, further production cuts by Opec+ and Saudi Arabia are expected to support prices in the coming months. (Gulf Times)

- Saudi cabinet reaffirms support for OPEC+ precautionary measures to stabilize oil market Saudi Arabia's cabinet said on Tuesday that it reaffirms its support for precautionary measures by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, known as OPEC+, to stabilize the oil market, state media reported on Tuesday. (Zawya)
- Top Saudi infrastructure, water expos open next month Building on past year's success, Saudi Infrastructure Expo is gearing up for its second edition which kicks off next month in capital Riyadh along with the debut Saudi Water Expo, the only event dedicated to the water industry in the kingdom, said its organizers dmg events. To be held from September 11 to 13 at the Rivadh International Conference & Exhibition Centre, it is the only event covering the full spectrum of systems and infrastructure needed for the creation of smart cities and utilities in the Saudi Arabia. Focusing on three key industry pillars - transport, utilities and urban technology - these curated show sectors cover the entire range of products, services and technology within the infrastructure industry making it easy for key buyers to access at the event. The Saudi Infrastructure Expo will serve as a crucial meeting point for government bodies, giga projects, contractors, developers, project owners, consultants, architects, utilities service providers, tech giants and procurement professionals, among other stakeholders. The three-day event will see more than 200 specialist companies from 22 countries showcasing their cutting-edge products and services and innovative solutions before a 15,000-strong visitor crowd, said the organizers. These include big players from Saudi Arabia, Germany, Italy, Singapore, Jordan, the US, the UK and Malaysia, who will be presenting these products under various product sectors, such as - urban connectivity, utilities, smart technology, desalination, water technology and waste management. This year's edition will also host eight country pavilions - Egypt, China, India, Germany, UAE, Qatar, Italy and Türkiye. The expo will be co-located with the debut Saudi Water Expo as well as the Saudi Infrastructure Summit, a two-day exclusive high-level gathering of thought leaders, industry experts and practitioners focused on delivering the ambitious Vision 2030 and catalyzing a transformational shift in Saudi Arabia's infrastructure and water landscape. According to experts, Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 is propelling a momentous transition towards a sustainable future, prioritizing infrastructure and urban planning as key components of its transformative goals. Supporting these ambitious goals, the next month's expo will convene local and international suppliers and manufacturers and source the necessary products to transform the country's



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infrastructure landscape. "Building upon the resounding achievements of the previous edition, Saudi Infrastructure Expo is bigger, better and more impactful this year, representing a score of infrastructure sectors and building on the success of its first edition in 2022," remarked Muhammed Kazi, the Vice President – Construction at dmg events. "This achievement has led for our successful collaboration with SCA, which will drive innovation and collaboration in the realm of infrastructure development," he stated. Local companies such as Abdullah Al Jared Trading, a specialist in the manufacturing of water pumps; Samnan Holding Group, active in the field of water sector products; and Al Rawaf Contracting Company, an expert in general contracting, construction and infrastructure development, will be exhibiting for the first time at the event, showcasing industry excellence as well as innovative and progressive products and services. Prominent names from Saudi Arabia's infrastructure and water landscape will debut at this year's event, including Al Bawani, Engie, Tasnee, Saudi Pan Kingdom Company (Sapac), White Helmet and Enowa by Saudi futuristic city NEOM. International exhibitors including China's Quanzhou Hongshengxing Engineering Machinery, a leading manufacturer of excavator/dozer undercarriage parts; Norway's Isiflo, a specialized producer of brass and composite fittings for plumbing and gas; Oman-based Panel Tech International, a leading manufacturer of PIR, PU & rockwool sandwich panels, profile sheet and Z purlins; UK's Platipus Anchors, an expert in design, manufacture and supply of Percussion Driven Earth Anchors (PDEA); Al Dousor International Company from Germany; India's Garware Technical Fibres, leading players in the technical textiles sector; Egypt's Hassan Allam Holding, specializing in engineering and construction, investment and development and Türkiye's Hatboru, a leader in steel pipes for drilling projects, will present cutting-edge products & services and innovative solutions at the Saudi Infrastructure Expo. (Zawya)

- Dubai's economy grows 2.8% to \$30.3bn While taking to X (Twitter), Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, said the growth contributes to the ambitious goals of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 to double the emirate's economy. "Testament to the dynamism of its diverse economic sectors, the growth contributes to the ambitious goals of the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 to double the city's GDP over the next decade and consolidate its status as one of the world's top three urban economies," Sheikh Hamdan said. In January, a new agenda launched in Dubai aimed to double the size of the emirate's economy over the next 10 years. The Dubai Economic Agenda 'D33' specified combined economic targets of Dh32tn by 2033. The emirate also aimed to double foreign trade to reach Dh25.6tn and add 400 cities to its trading network. Last week, the Federal Center for Competitiveness and Statistics said the UAE economy grew 3.8% at constant prices in the first quarter with most of the sectors making significant contributions to the country's growth. The preliminary estimates showed that GDP grew by more than Dh15bn during the January-March period to Dh418.3bn. (Zawva)
- Dubai International Chamber attracts 6MNCs, 50 SMEs in H1 Dubai International Chamber has succeeded in attracting a total of 56 businesses to the emirate during H1 2023, including six multinational corporations (MNCs) and 50 Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). It also supported the expansion of 15 local and national companies into global markets, either by increasing their exports or helping them to establish a presence abroad. During the first half of the year, Dubai International Chamber inaugurated six new international representative offices in Hong Kong, Australia, the UK, Indonesia, South Africa, and Singapore. The openings brought the total number of international offices at the end of H1 2023 to 21, located across Africa, Latin America, Eurasia, India, China, Europe, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. Dubai Global Initiative: The new offices come as part of the drive to achieve the goals of the Dubai Global initiative, which was launched by Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai. Led by Dubai International Chamber, the initiative seeks to establish a powerful network of 50 representative offices for Dubai across five continents by 2030. Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Chairman of Dubai International Chamber, commented: "We remain committed to achieving our strategic priorities of attracting foreign direct investment to Dubai and supporting our members' trade and

expansion into international markets, in line with the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda (D33). Dubai International Chamber is working to consolidate the emirate's position as a leading global hub for business and investments in accordance with the vision of the wise leadership.' "Dubai is one of the world's fastest-growing economies and offers a diverse business environment that is rich in opportunities across various sectors. We will continue to work to attract international businesses, investors, and global talent to the emirate, as well as supporting the expansion of Dubai businesses around the world," he added. Dubai International Chamber intensified its efforts to support Dubai-based companies in their plans for global expansion with the launch of the 'New Horizons' initiative. Aimed at identifying and capitalizing on partnership opportunities, the initiative arranges specialized trade missions that enable Dubai-based companies to visit targeted global markets. Roadshows: Participants in these roadshows can explore investment opportunities and prospects for joint economic partnerships through a series of pre-arranged events and business meetings. The chamber successfully arranged more than 550 bilateral business meetings during H1 2023 as part of the New Horizons initiative, connecting companies and investors from Dubai with their counterparts in Central Asia, London, and South Africa. Dubai International Chamber is focused on boosting Dubai's status as a major global trading hub. The chamber supports Dubai's vision of expanding into new global markets, forging economic partnerships, and supporting local companies in achieving global success, while also attracting international talent and investors from around the world. Dubai International Chamber is targeting 30 international markets of strategic importance to Dubai through its growing network of international representative offices. (Zawya)

- Dubai International Chamber to support growth of 100 companies into global markets - Dubai International Chamber has a target to empower 100 businesses located in Dubai to expand their operations globally by the end of 2024, according to an official statement. President and CEO of Dubai Chambers, Mohammad Ali Rashed Lootah, said: "The New Horizons initiative assists in driving the international growth of member companies and will play a vital role in achieving Dubai's goal of increasing non-oil foreign trade to AED 2tn by 2026, in line with the emirate's fiveyear trade plan." The initiative was launched earlier in 2023 and targeted Central Asia during its first roadshow in March. This move was followed by trade missions to the Retail Technology Show in London in April and SAITEX in Johannesburg in June. A total of 38 enterprises took part in the three roadshows, which had over 550 meetings with the objective to connect Dubai businesses with key potential partners in targeted countries. New Horizons builds on the In Focus initiative, which is a platform for Dubai firms and member companies to endorse engagement with leaders from both the public and private sectors and help them to expand into major strategic markets. It is worth noting that Dubai International Chamber opened three offices in Cairo, Tel Aviv, and Istanbul in December 2022. (Zawya)
- Kuwait Ports Authority signs lease for two marine berths at Shuaiba port

   The Kuwait Ports Authority (KPA) signed a lease contract worth
   12.288bn Kuwaiti dinars (\$39.94bn) with the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC)
   for two marine berths at Shuaiba port, KPA said on Tuesday. (Reuters)
- Oman Air announces major transformation plan A comprehensive program to restructure Oman Air has been announced and will be implemented over the next three to four years. The program, announced by Eng Saeed Al Mawali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, and Chairman of Oman Air, aims to address ongoing losses and the accumulation of debt, and includes four main pillars: financial sustainability, corporate governance, commercial aspects, and human capital. Meanwhile, the airline's network is being reevaluated by international experts and decisions will be taken on whether to continue certain destinations. Integration with Salam Air is also high on the programmer's agenda, a statement said. The restructure program is based on the recommendations of international management consulting firm, Oliver Wyman, who conducted a thorough assessment of the airline's financial and commercial performance and presented practical measures to achieve sustainable commercial operations, it said. In addition, the restructure will also aim at improving the airline's basic operational performance and enabling it to better meet the needs of the



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market. Eng Al Mawali said Oman Air's radical and sustainable transformation requires the use of qualified experts. In this regard, changes will be made in the current Board of Directors and Executive Management team during the coming months, ensuring the onboarding of highly qualified experts, whether local or international. On corporate governance, he said specialized committees have been formed to reformulate governance concerned with human, financial and commercial resources, affiliated to the board of directors. Eng Al Mawali stressed that the upcoming measures will have a positive impact on the quality and reliability of Oman Air's services and expressed his thanks to the company's workforce for their contribution and efforts during the last period. (Zawya)



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### **Rebased Performance**

**Daily Index Performance** 





#### Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,925.24	(0.6)	(0.9)	5.5
Silver/Ounce	22.78	(1.5)	(3.6)	(4.9)
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	86.17	1.0	(0.1)	0.3
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	82.92	1.2	0.1	3.3
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.77	4.5	9.5	(21.3)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	73.60	(0.5)	(1.2)	4.0
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	63.60	(28.1)	(0.8)	(37.3)
Euro	1.10	(0.4)	(0.5)	2.3
Yen	143.38	0.6	1.1	9.4
GBP	1.27	(0.3)	(0.0)	5.5
CHF	1.14	(0.3)	(0.4)	5.6
AUD	0.65	(0.4)	(0.4)	(3.9)
USD Index	102.53	0.5	0.5	(1.0)
RUB	110.69	0.0	0.0	58.9
BRL	0.20	0.0	(0.4)	7.9
Source: Bloomberg				

Global Indices Performance Close 1D%\* WTD%\* YTD%\* MSCI World Index 2,988.10 (0.5) 0.1 14.8 DJ Industrial (0.4) 0.7 6.5 35,314.49 S&P 500 4,499.38 (0.4) 0.5 17.2 NASDAQ 100 13,884.32 (0.8) (0.2) 32.7 STOXX 600 (0.7) (0.9) 10.3 458.60 15.8 DAX 15,774.93 (1.6) (1.9) FTSE 100 (0.9) 7,527.42 (0.7) 6.3 CAC 40 7,269.47 (1.2) (1.4) 14.8 Nikkei 32,377.29 (0.2) (0.5) 13.4 MSCI EM 1,003.71 (1.2) (1.4) 4.9 SHANGHAI SE Composite 3,260.62 (0.6) (1.5) 0.9 HANG SENG 19,184.17 (1.9) (1.9) (3.2) BSE SENSEX 65,846.50 (0.3) (0.1) 8.0 Bovespa 119,090.24 (0.1) (1.4) 17.0 RTS 999.80 (1.7) (1.6) 3.0

Source: Bloomberg (\*\$ adjusted returns if any)



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