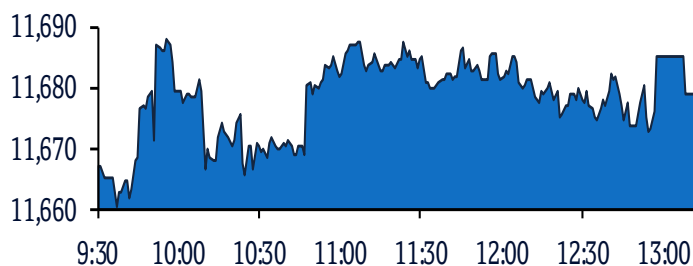


## QSE Intra-Day Movement



## Qatar Commentary

The QE Index rose marginally to close at 11,678.9. Gains were led by the Consumer Goods & Services and Insurance indices, gaining 1.3% and 0.4%, respectively. Top gainers were Inma Holding and National Leasing, rising 4.5% and 4.4%, respectively. Among the top losers, Qatar International Islamic Bank fell 1.9%, while Ahli Bank was down 1.3%.

## GCC Commentary

**Saudi Arabia:** The TASI Index fell 1.0% to close at 11,199.8. Losses were led by the Consumer Durables & Apparel and Pharma, Biotech & Life Science indices, falling 2.5% and 2.0%, respectively. Arabian Shield Cooperative declined 4.7%, while Middle East Specialized Cable was down 4.3%.

**Dubai:** The DFM Index fell 0.8% to close at 3,174.1. The Consumer Staples and Discretionary index declined 3.3%, while the Transportation index fell 2.0%. Takaful Emarat Insurance declined 7.8%, while Emirates Refreshments Co. was down 5.7%.

**Abu Dhabi:** The ADX General Index gained 0.7% to close at 8,450.5. The Investment & Financial Services index rose 1.4%, while the Industrial index gained 0.5%. Umm Al Qaiwain General Invest rose 10.6%, while Palms Sports was up 7.7%.

**Kuwait:** The Kuwait All Share Index fell marginally to close at 7,044.3. The Basic Materials index declined 0.7%, while the Utilities index fell 0.4%. Al Tamdeen Investment Co. declined 5.0%, while Kuwait Cement Co. was down 4.6%.

**Oman:** The MSM 30 Index fell 0.1% to close at 4,136.2. Losses were led by the Industrial and Financial Services indices, falling 0.9% and 0.1%, respectively. Oman Flour Mills declined 8.1%, while Asaffa Foods was down 4.0%.

**Bahrain:** The BHB Index gained 0.1% to close at 1,793.9. The Consumer Staples index rose 1.5%, while the Industrials index gained 0.9%. Bmmi rose 2.1%, while Al Baraka Banking Group was up 1.4%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Inma Holding	4.01	4.5	1,302.1	(21.6)
National Leasing	0.94	4.4	13,531.6	(24.4)
Zad Holding Company	16.70	4.4	17.8	23.2
Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Co.	3.64	3.3	1,633.7	91.6
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.93	3.0	20,277.3	(26.4)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.93	3.0	20,277.3	(26.4)
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.81	0.7	19,402.9	25.0
Aljarah Holding	0.94	4.4	13,531.6	(24.4)
Ezdan Holding Group	1.33	0.8	9,190.4	(25.1)
Investment Holding Group	1.23	0.9	9,109.9	105.0

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	11,678.93	0.0	(0.1)	2.6	11.9	98.36	181,648.3	16.3	1.7	2.5
Dubai	3,174.09	(0.8)	0.9	3.3	27.4	34.70	111,033.9	20.8	1.1	2.4
Abu Dhabi	8,450.53	0.7	0.2	(1.1)	67.5	348.37	405,959.3	23.1	2.6	2.7
Saudi Arabia	11,199.84	(1.0)	(0.6)	4.1	28.9	1,909.57	2,628,597.4	24.7	2.4	2.4
Kuwait	7,044.34	(0.0)	0.0	3.7	27.0	149.71	135,943.8	21.0	1.6	2.0
Oman	4,136.24	(0.1)	0.3	3.4	13.1	8.17	18,963.5	11.8	0.8	3.8
Bahrain	1,793.88	0.1	0.8	3.7	20.4	4.18	28,757.6	10.0	0.9	3.5

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

Market Indicators	29 Dec 21	28 Dec 21	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	360.9	251.1	43.7
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	667,579.3	666,187.1	0.2
Volume (mn)	127.5	95.3	33.7
Number of Transactions	8,764	7,889	11.1
Companies Traded	46	46	0.0
Market Breadth	27:13	21:20	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	23,119.15	0.0	(0.1)	15.2	16.3
All Share Index	3,696.43	0.2	(0.1)	15.5	162.2
Banks	4,971.82	0.0	(0.2)	17.0	15.4
Industrials	4,043.01	0.3	0.1	30.5	16.7
Transportation	3,551.90	(0.3)	(0.3)	7.7	17.7
Real Estate	1,779.53	(0.1)	(1.2)	(7.7)	15.3
Insurance	2,617.75	0.4	(0.5)	9.3	15.6
Telecoms	1,034.07	0.0	(0.1)	2.3	N/A
Consumer	8,099.61	1.3	1.4	(0.5)	21.6
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,751.24	0.0	(0.3)	11.3	18.7

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Emaar Economic City	Saudi Arabia	12.12	3.1	14,764.8	31.6
Burgan Bank	Kuwait	0.25	2.5	5,966.3	25.8
Abu Dhabi Comm. Bank	Abu Dhabi	8.40	1.2	777.8	35.5
Qatar Fuel Company	Qatar	17.84	1.1	153.1	(4.5)
Oman Telecomm.	Oman	0.76	1.1	58.2	5.6

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Ominvest	Oman	0.31	(17.3)	107.9	(24.1)
Arabian Centres Co	Saudi Arabia	22.20	(3.8)	1,758.9	(11.4)
Saudi Kayan Petrochem.	Saudi Arabia	16.94	(2.6)	5,809.8	18.5
National Industrialization	Saudi Arabia	19.94	(2.4)	4,686.8	45.8
Rabigh Refining & Petro.	Saudi Arabia	20.60	(2.4)	2,261.1	49.1

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%
Qatar International Islamic Bank	9.21	(1.9)	565.6	1.7
Ahli Bank	3.80	(1.3)	0.2	10.2
Doha Insurance Group	1.92	(0.6)	151.3	37.8
Qatar Gas Transport Company	3.30	(0.6)	2,093.3	3.8
Barwa Real Estate Company	3.16	(0.4)	1,746.3	(7.2)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	20.17	0.3	75,675.6	13.1
Qatar Islamic Bank	18.31	0.1	54,170.9	7.0
Masraf Al Rayan	4.84	(0.2)	25,760.0	6.8
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.93	3.0	18,806.9	(26.4)
Doha Bank	2.95	0.0	16,878.1	24.6

Source: Bloomberg (\* in QR)

## Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index rose marginally to close at 11,678.9. The Consumer Goods & Services and Insurance indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from GCC, Arab and foreign shareholders despite selling pressure from Qatari shareholders.
- Inma Holding and National Leasing were the top gainers, rising 4.5% and 4.4%, respectively. Among the top losers, Qatar International Islamic Bank fell 1.9%, while Ahli Bank was down 1.3%.
- Volume of shares traded on Wednesday rose by 33.7% to 127.5mn from 95.3mn on Tuesday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 118.5mn, volume for the day was 7.6% higher. Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev. and Salam International Inv. Ltd. were the most active stocks, contributing 15.9% and 15.2% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	30.72%	37.10%	(23,033,301.6)
Qatari Institutions	19.78%	41.19%	(77,273,522.0)
<b>Qatari</b>	<b>50.49%</b>	<b>78.29%</b>	<b>(100,306,823.6)</b>
GCC Individuals	0.32%	0.41%	(314,522.6)
GCC Institutions	1.37%	0.22%	4,150,194.8
<b>GCC</b>	<b>1.69%</b>	<b>0.63%</b>	<b>3,835,672.2</b>
Arab Individuals	10.38%	10.04%	1,196,236.9
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
<b>Arab</b>	<b>10.38%</b>	<b>10.04%</b>	<b>1,196,236.9</b>
Foreigners Individuals	4.14%	2.61%	5,509,705.9
Foreigners Institutions	33.30%	8.43%	89,765,208.5
<b>Foreigners</b>	<b>37.44%</b>	<b>11.04%</b>	<b>95,274,914.5</b>

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

## Global Economic Data and Earnings Calendar

### Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
12-29	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Wholesale Inventories MoM	Nov	1.20%	1.50%	2.50%
12-29	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Retail Inventories MoM	Nov	2.00%	0.50%	0.30%
12-29	EU	European Central Bank	M3 Money Supply YoY	Nov	7.30%	7.60%	7.70%

Source: Bloomberg (s.a. = seasonally adjusted; n.s.a. = non-seasonally adjusted; w.d.a. = working day adjusted)

### Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting 4Q2021 results	No. of days remaining	Status
QNBK	QNB Group	11-Jan-22	12	Due
ABQK	Ahli Bank	13-Jan-22	14	Due

Source: QSE

## Qatar

- QCB: Qatar exchange houses' foreign currency purchase, sale moderates in 2020** – Purchase and sale of foreign currencies by Qatar's exchange houses further moderated during 2020, Qatar Central Bank said and noted the “decline in remittances” contributed to the moderation in sales and purchases of foreign currencies last year. “In view of the balance between sales and purchase, the demand of foreign currencies of the exchange houses from the banks is expected to remain low. This is reflected in the low level of dues of exchange houses to the banks,” QCB said in its latest Financial Stability Review. In Qatar, outgoing remittances through exchange houses in Qatar dipped in 2020 under the twin impact of pandemic and fall in oil prices combined with increased spending within the domestic economy. As in the previous year, the decline was spread across all major regions. The share of funds to Asia continued to dominate and increased during the year. Remittances to the top five countries also moderated but relatively slowly as compared to other countries resulting in modest increase in their share. Under the current circumstances and due to customers shift to use e-banking services through smart phone applications and websites, and in view of the noticeable increase of piracy and cyber fraud attempts, exchange houses were asked to take the necessary security measures to protect network and banking services systems infrastructure. “All were advised that prior authorization from QCB is now required for import or export of foreign currencies as well as Qatari riyal,” QCB said. (Gulf-Times.com)
- Qatar 2021: Economy pulls off a remarkable feat despite incredible headwinds** – Despite the repercussion of the COVID-19 pandemic, which continued to threaten the world's economies during 2021, the Qatari economy recorded a remarkable positive performance at various levels due to rational policies, a flexible economic approach to crisis management, and forward-looking plans, which enhanced Qatar's ability to quickly recover and adapt to changes, ensure business continuity and complete vital projects in the infrastructure sector and other sectors. It was not surprising that Qatar ranked first in the Gulf region in COVID Economic Recovery Index, scoring four points, according to the global economic magazine 'MEED' published last August. The index confirmed that Doha is the holder of the highest score in the economic recovery index, as its revenues depend mainly on natural gas, not oil, making its financial position more robust. This economic and financial performance was reflected in the reports of credit rating institutions, as the country maintained its high rank in credit ratings and a stable future outlook for its economy, based on its financial position, which provided it with protection from potential risks, as well as the continuous development of the energy sector. In its latest reports, the World Bank also expected that the Qatari economy would grow by 3% in 2021 and accelerate its pace by 4.1% in 2022 and 4.5% in 2023 after absorbing the shocks caused by the pandemic and returning again to the growth trend. The quarterly figures indicate that the country's GDP achieved remarkable growth in the 2nd quarter of 2021 at a rate of 5.4%, QR156.3bn, compared to QR148.3bn in the 1st quarter. The contribution of the oil and gas sector accounted for 36.8%, a growth of 11%, while the total non-oil sectors accounted for 63.2%, with a growth rate of 2.4%. The industrial sector, which is one the main forces of development, witnessed remarkable growth after its contribution to the GDP increased from 7.3% in 2020 to 8.7% in the first half of 2021, to occupy the fourth place as the highest contributing activity to the country's economy during the current year. This reflects the efficacy of the measures taken by the

State that supported the growth of various vital economic sectors in light of the steady steps towards achieving economic diversification in accordance with the determinants of the National Development Strategy and Qatar National Strategy for Manufacturing Industry 2018-2022. In another indicator that reflects the positive movement of the economy, Qatar's trade balance during the 3rd quarter of 2021 achieved a surplus of QR57.8bn compared to the third quarter of 2020, when it reached QR19.6bn. The total value of Qatari exports (including exports of local goods and re-exports) during the mentioned period amounted to 82.6 billion riyals, an increase of QR41.5bn, or 101.0%, compared to the same period last year, which recorded total exports of QR41.1bn, and an increase of QR11.7bn, or 16.5%, compared to the second quarter of this year. The value of Qatari imports during the mentioned period amounted to QR24.8bn, an increase of QR3.3bn or 15.3% compared to the third quarter of 2020, which amounted to QR21.5bn, and a slight decrease from the second quarter of this year. (Qatar Tribune)

- Major infrastructure projects completed in 2021** – The State of Qatar completed its various major projects in the field of infrastructure in 2021, according to plans and strategies. Infrastructure projects, the development of citizens' lands, and public services development projects, including health and education, received priority spending, and the cost was estimated at over QR72bn. Among the most important infrastructure projects in 2021 is the opening of the Sabah Al Ahmad Corridor, which represents an important addition to the road transport network in Qatar and a major link between the south and north of the country through the city of Doha. All roads were also opened to traffic, as part of the fourth package of the Roads and Infra-structure Development Project in the Industrial Area in Doha, in addition to the opening of the seventh bridge at Umm Lekhba Interchange (Landmark), the second highest bridge in Qatar with a length of one kilometer within the works of the Sabah Al Ahmad Corridor project, and other similar projects. These projects were implemented within the framework of providing an integrated infrastructure, advanced road network and service facilities throughout the country to serve the citizens and expatriates in a better way. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Qatar's PPI rises 100.2% in November** – Qatar's Producer Price Index (PPI) for November 2021 is estimated at 93.9 points showing an increase of 5% when compared to October 2021 and a rise of 100.2% YoY when compared to the PPI of November 2020. Planning and Statistics Authority (PSA) has released the Monthly Producer Price Index (PPI) of the Industrial sector for November 2021 with the base year 2013. The PPI of November 2021 for the mining sector showed an increase by 3.9% when compared with the PPI of October 2021, primarily due to the price increase of 'Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas' by 3.9%, and 0.2% in 'Stone, Sand and Clay'. PPI of November 2021, when compared with its counterpart in the previous year, there was an increase of 113.5%. In the manufacturing sector, an increase of 7.3% has been recorded in November 2021, when compared with the previous month's manufacturing index of October 2021. The prices increase is seen in 'Basic Chemicals' by 13.5%, followed by 'Refined Petroleum Products' by 6.1%, 'Basic Metals' by 3.7%, 'Rubber and Plastics products' by 1.1%, 'Juices' by 0.8%, 'Grain mill and Other Products' by 0.3%, and 'Cement and Other Non-Metallic products' by 0.2%. However, the decreasing prices are noticed in 'Other Chemical Products and Fibers' by 8.6%, 'Dairy Products' and 'Beverages' by 0.1%. No change was noticed in 'Paper and Paper products'. Compared with the index of counterpart in the previous year, 'Manufacturing' PPI of

November 2021 showed an increase of 78.3%. The major groups which explain this price increase are 'Basic Chemicals' by 134.1%, followed by 'Refined Petroleum Products' by 77.3%, 'Basic Metals' by 40%, 'Rubber and Plastics Products' by 14.1%, 'Paper and Paper Products' by 11.4%, 'Cement and Other Non-Metallic Products' by 3.3%, and 'Grain Mill and Other Products' by 1.4%. However, prices fall in 'Other Chemical Products and Fibers' by 2.9%, 'Beverages' by 2.1%, 'Juices' by 0.5%, and 'Dairy Products' by 0.2%. In the Electricity and Water sector, the PPI of this group showed an increase of 7.4% compared to October 2021, resulting from prices rise in 'Electricity' by 11.2%, and 'Water' by 3.8%. When compared the PPI of November 2021, to the PPI of November 2020 Y-o-Y, showed an increase of 14.1%, affected by prices rise in 'Water' by 18.2%, and in 'Electricity' by 10.2%. (Qatar Tribune)

- Private sector stages strong recovery in 2021 –** Qatar's economy has registered a strong recovery during 2021. The latest PMI data of the Qatar Financial Center showed a record improvement in the commercial activity of non-energy private sector companies in October 2021, as they recorded an increase for the fifth month in a row, by about 62.2 points, from 60.6 points in September of the same year. The record rise in the overall commercial activity growth rate indicates strong growth rates in all four major sectors, namely services, retail and wholesale, manufacturing and construction. In a related context, a report by the Qatar Chamber showed that the value of private sector exports, until the end of the 3rd quarter of this year, amounted to about QR20.9bn, compared to QR11.1bn for the same period last year, achieving a record increase of more than 88%. Last September, exports recorded a record rise of about QR4.98bn, an increase of more than 350% on an annual basis compared to the same month of the year 2020, when they recorded about QR1.09bn. Exports also increased by 164% on a monthly basis compared to last August, in which the value of exports amounted to QR1.89bn. According to the data, the level of exports, at a value of about QR1.95bn at the time, increased by 155%, and increased, by a large percentage of more than 771%, from the lowest level reached by exports and that was in April of the year 2020 that witnessed the implementation of precautionary measures, which amounted to about QR572m only. In 2022, the budget of expenditures in Qatar will be QR204.3bn, while the total estimates of revenues in the budget (fiscal year 2022), amounted to QR196bn, which represents an increase of 22.4% compared to the estimates of the 2021 budget, while the new budget estimates the deficit of about QR8.3bn and QR17.8bn have been allocated to the education sector, or 8.7% of total expenditures, and QR20bn have been allocated to the health sector, representing 9.8% of total expenditures. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Energy crisis: Britain leans on gas shipments from Qatar to ease supply squeeze –** Britain has tapped Qatar as an informal natural gas supplier of last resort in the face of soaring gas prices across Europe, The Independent has learnt, after a visit to the gulf nation by foreign secretary Liz Truss. Pressure to ensure gas supply has mounted amid record prices across the EU and in Britain. Pandemic production disruption, lack of UK storage capacity and slimmer stores in major EU economies have left many countries scrambling to top up supplies of natural gas this winter. Energy suppliers this week described gas prices as a "national crisis" and industry estimates suggest that consumers could face a doubling of energy bills when the price cap is reviewed in April next year. The business secretary, along with Ofgem and energy suppliers, were set to continue crisis talks this week after failing to reach a solution. (Bloomberg)
- Real Estate trade volume exceeds QR146mn in one week –** The volume of real estate trading in sales contracts at the

Department of Real Estate Registration at the Ministry of Justice during the period from December 19 to December 23, 2021, reached QR146.687mn. The weekly bulletin issued by the Department showed that the list of real estate properties traded for sale has included vacant lands, houses, multi-purpose vacant lands. Sales were concentrated in Umm Slal, Al Rayyan, Al Shamal, Al Khor and Al Dakhira, Doha, Al Daayen, Al Wakrah municipalities. In the previous weekly bulletin of the real estate trading volume for the period from December 12 to December 16, 2021, the trading volume amounted to QR466.888mn. According to professional opinion by various real estate players in Qatar, the ongoing revival in demand for both short-term and long-term housing will help stabilize property prices in 2022-23 in the country. In addition, Qatar's economy is expected to grow by an avg 3.2% annually between 2022 and 2030. (Qatar Tribune)

- 14% rise in operations volume at Hamad Port –** Hamad Port recorded many internal and external achievements during the year 2021. The first and second phases of the project to develop the second container terminal in the port were completed. The initial operation, which began in December 2020, provided that the full operation of the two phases will be completed before the end of 2022. The third and fourth phases of the terminal will also be developed later to increase the port's capacity per the requirements of the local market. The volume of operations at Hamad Port witnessed an increase of 14 %, from 1,136,450 in 2020 to 1,291,235 in 2021. Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) continues to work on implementing its plans and reaching its goals, the most prominent of which was winning the membership of the Executive Council of the Arab Civil Aviation Organization. It also signed the comprehensive air transport agreement with the EU, updated the terms of several air services agreements, and signed new memoranda and agreements with other countries, which enhances the national carrier's network, given that it is the fastest-growing airline in the world. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Lusail Tram preview on January 1 –** Qatar Railways Company (Qatar Rail) has announced that the Lusail Tram preview service will start on January 1, 2022 in Lusail City. "We urge all road users and pedestrians in the area to abide by traffic signals on the roads to ensure safety for all," Qatar Rail tweeted yesterday. Qatar Rail noted that metroexpress bookings can be made to/from the following Lusail Tram stations: Energy City South, Esplanade, Yacht Club, Marina Promenade, and Marina from January 1, 2022. However, metroexpress bookings between Legtaifiya Station and the Lusail area will be discontinued from January 8, 2022. The existing Travel Card can be used on both the Lusail Tram and the Doha Metro with no additional costs but passengers "must always remember to tap in and tap out using the validator on board the tram to avoid extra charges". (Gulf-Times.com)

#### International

- US goods trade gap hits record; pending home sales slip –** The US trade deficit in goods mushroomed to the widest ever in November as imports of consumer goods shot to a record ahead of the second straight COVID-distorted holiday shopping season along with industrial supplies, while exports slipped after a historic gain a month earlier. The goods trade gap reported Wednesday by the Commerce Department is likely to remain historically high as long as the coronavirus pandemic continues, economists said. The emergence of the fast-spreading Omicron variant of COVID-19 that has driven US and global caseloads to a record this week may exacerbate it further in the near term if it limits American consumers' spending on services and restokes demand for imported goods. Omicron also stands as a downside risk in the housing market. A reading of pending home



sales also out Wednesday showed an unexpected drop in November, and while that data largely predated Omicron's ascendance in the US, the highly contagious new variant could further limit home sales in the near term, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) said. The goods trade deficit widened last month by 17.5% to \$97.8bn from \$83.2bn in October, Census Bureau data showed. That exceeds the previous record deficit set in September of \$97bn and may damp optimism that trade might finally add to US economic growth this quarter for the first time in more than a year. Imports rose by 4.7% with industrial supplies leading the way with an increase of \$5.7bn to \$63.2bn, followed by consumer goods rising by \$2.9bn to just shy of \$67bn as retailers rushed to fill store shelves ahead of Christmas. Both were record highs. "The emergence of the Omicron variant may further ignite demand for imported goods if services activity is restricted" in the first quarter of 2022, Nancy Vanden Houten, lead economist at Oxford Economics, wrote after Wednesday's report. Goods exports, meanwhile, declined 2.1%, with weakness across the board outside of a 4.3% increase in food exports. The drop was led by declines of \$1.4bn in industrial supplies in and \$1.3bn in capital goods. (Reuters)

- **Brazil's central government posts higher-than-expected budget surplus** – Brazil's central government reported a primary budget surplus of 3.872bn Reais (\$680mn) in November, the Treasury said on Wednesday, above a Reuters survey of analysts, which forecasted a surplus of 1.1bn reais. That was the largest November budget surplus since 2013, when the government posted a surplus that would today come to 45.559bn reais when adjusted for inflation. Revenue during the period rose 4.4% from the same month a year ago to 130.863bn Reais. That figure was buoyed by a significant increase in income tax revenue and taxes on credit transactions. Central government expenditures, meanwhile, fell 12.7% to 126.991bn Reais, thanks largely to a decrease in costs associated with dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. (Reuters)
- **Russian 2021 inflation accelerates to 8.39%, preliminary data shows** – Consumer inflation in Russia accelerated to 8.39% in 2021 despite seven interest rate hikes by the central bank, up from 4.91% in 2020, preliminary data from the statistics service Rosstat showed on Wednesday. Inflation, which is hovering near its highest levels since early 2016, has become an acute problem for Russia, denting living standards and prompting President Vladimir Putin to call for preemptive measures. The increase in the consumer price index in 2021 came above analysts' expectations for a rise of 8.2% in a Reuters poll carried out in late December. The central bank, which targets inflation at 4%, had to revise its inflation forecasts higher during the year but kept saying that the pace of annual consumer price growth would near the target in 2022. The bank is expected to raise rates again, from 8.5%, in the first quarter of 2022, according to the Reuters monthly poll. In the week to December 27, the consumer price index rose 0.26%, Rosstat said. Rosstat said it would publish the final inflation reading on January 12. (Reuters)

#### Regional

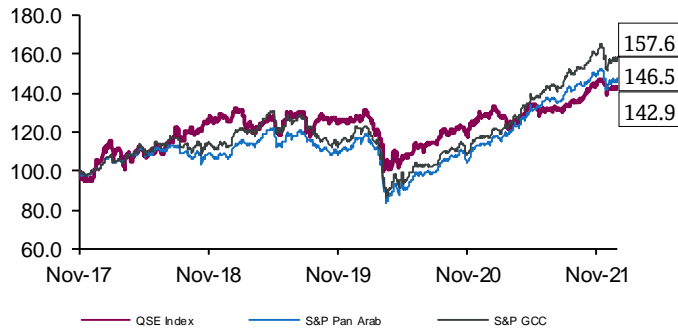
- **Saudi Central Bank's assets go up by 2% in November to hit SR1.89tn** – Saudi Central Bank's total assets went up by 2.2% in November from a month ago to hit SR1.89tn, it said in its monthly report. Deposits with banks abroad was the main driver of this change as it rose by 19.9% to stand at SR324.1bn by the end of November. Net foreign assets held by SAMA increased – MoM – by 3.2% to hit SR1.68tn in November, the bank said. Meanwhile, the central bank's investments in foreign securities were little changed, edging down by 0.1% to reach SR1.14tn. (Zawya)

- **King Salman: Saudi is keen to continue working with OPEC+** – Saudi Arabia affirms that the stability and balance of the oil market is one of the pillars of its energy strategy, due to its belief that oil is an important element to support the global economy growth, Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz said in a speech published by state-run SPA. The kingdom is keen to continue working with the OPEC+ agreement for its essential role in stabilizing the oil markets, King Salman said, adding that Saudi Arabia also stresses the importance of all participating countries commitments to the agreement, SPA said. (Bloomberg)
- **Saudi Central Bank approves Gulf Union Al Ahlia's capital raise to SR458.9mn** – The Saudi Central Bank (SAMA) has approved the capital increase of Gulf Union Al Ahlia Cooperative Insurance to SR458.9mn. The company announced to the Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) that it had received a letter which included approval from SAMU to increase its capital from SR229.4mn by offering a rights issue. (Zawya)
- **Oil drives Saudi Arabia's 3Q current account surplus up 149%** – Oil exports helped increase Saudi Arabia's current account surplus by 148.7% in the three-month period ending in September, the Saudi Central Bank said in a report. This signaled a reversal of a \$0.7bn deficit in the same period last year, with the surplus now standing at \$21.7bn. The upswing in the current account balance was attributed to a strengthening surplus in the goods balance which reached \$37.9bn in the third quarter, up from \$28.9bn in the previous one. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Arabia's Knowledge Economic City promotes Almubarak to CEO** – The Knowledge Economic City Company Board of Directors appointed on Dec. 28 Mohammad Abdulhameed Almubarak as Chief Executive Officer for the company, to be effective as of January 1, 2022, according to a bourse filing. Almubarak joined KEC as Chief Investment Officer in 2019 and was appointed as Acting CEO on October 1, 2021, as per the company's announcement on Tadawul on September 28, 2021. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Arabia may set deep crude price cuts for Asia in February** – Top oil exporter Saudi Arabia may implement deep price cuts for the crude it sells to Asia in February after Middle East benchmarks and spot prices slumped this month, industry sources said. The producer is expected to cut official selling prices (OSPs) of all grades by more than \$1 in February from the previous month, dropping prices back to their lowest levels in three to four months, a Reuters survey of seven crude buyers showed. (Reuters)
- **Saudi banks' credit to the private sector goes up by \$3.4bn** – Saudi commercial banks' credit to the private sector rose by SR12.7bn (\$3.4bn) in November when compared to the previous month, Saudi Central Bank data showed. In percentage terms, however, the increase was a marginal 0.6%. Additionally, financing provided by banks to government and quasi-government institutions was SR21.9bn, or 4%, higher in November. Saudi commercial banks' holdings of net foreign assets were down by 0.17%, reaching SR47.8bn. (Zawya)
- **Dur Hospitality signs \$22mn contract for luxury villas in Riyadh** – Saudi-based developer Dur Hospitality Company has announced an SR82.5mn (\$22mn) contract with Al Murshid Contracting Group Co to build 75 luxury villas in Riyadh. The company said in a statement to the Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) that the 30,000 sq.m development in King Khalid Road will take place over 18 months. (Zawya)
- **Solutions by STC signs 156mn riyals in contracts with STC** – Solutions by STC, also known as Arabian Internet & Telecommunications Co., signs a number of contracts to implement a centralized storage server and internet gateway

through IP multi-protocol label switching in addition to network expansion. (Bloomberg)

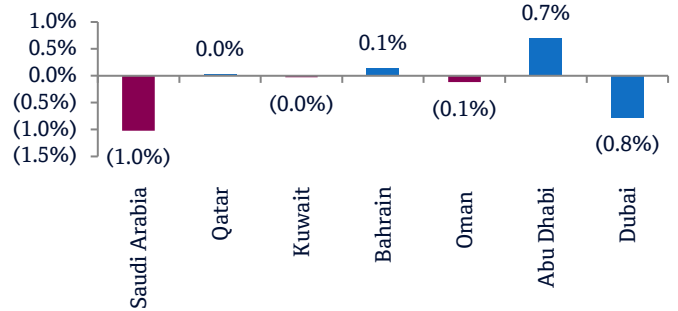
- **Qassim Cement to hire consulting firm for solar energy project** – Qassim Cement to appoint a specialized consulting firm to define the scope of work and qualify the competitors for a solar energy project with capacity of more than 30MW. Project to be implemented at Buraydah City in Qassim region. Company won't incur any capital or operational expenditure as payment will be based on actual consumption. (Bloomberg)
- **Qassim Cement in pact to build SR152mn cement mill** – Qassim Cement signs preliminary agreement with a Chinese firm to develop a cement mill at a cost of SR152mn. Mill at Buraydah factory will have a capacity of 300 tons/hour. Project period 15 months; contracts expected to be signed before mid of January. (Bloomberg)
- **UAE's NMDC wins \$354mn contract for Shamal Development at Khalifa Port** – Abu Dhabi-listed National Marine Dredging Company (NMDC) has won an AED 1.3bn (\$354mn) contract with AD Ports Group for the engineering and construction of Shamal Development marine works at Khalifa Port. The project, which aims to cement Khalifa Port's position as a major global trade and logistics hub, will include the dredging of 16.8mn cubic meters of water, a 1.2 km quay wall and construction of approximately a 3.8 km long detached breakwater. There will also be ground improvement works for 1mn sq.m of ground, with the project scheduled for completion October 2023. (Zawya)
- **Sharjah ruler approves \$9.37bn budget for 2022** – Sharjah's ruler Sheikh Dr Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi has approved the emirate's Dh34.42bn (\$9.37bn) budget for 2022, according to a tweet by the Sharjah Government Media Bureau. Out of the total budget expenditure, 44% will be allocated to the infrastructure sector, 27% to the economic development and 21% to social development sector, the Sharjah Government Media Bureau tweeted. (Zawya)
- **Abu Dhabi-listed Multiply Group to invest \$75mn in Getty Images** – Abu Dhabi-listed holding company Multiply Group has announced an AED 275mn (\$75mn) investment in Getty Images ahead of the media company's expected listing on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). In a press release, the company said it was a strategic investment to create technological synergies. (Zawya)
- **Energy development Oman appoints Mubadala's Al Lamki as CEO** – Energy Development Oman, a state-backed company that controls the country's biggest oil block, has appointed Mazin Al Lamki as chief executive officer, effective from 1Q 2022, the company said on Twitter. Al Lamki is currently chief operating officer at Mubadala Petroleum. He holds a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Manchester. He replaces Haifa Al Khaifi, who became CEO of the Omani company in January, in what was a rare appointment for a woman in a male-dominated sector in the Middle East. (Bloomberg)
- **Kuwaiti candidate has widespread support for top OPEC job, sources say** – Kuwait's candidate to lead the OPEC has widespread support from the group, with current secretary general Mohammad Barkindo not expected to seek re-election, two sources told Reuters. Haitham al-Ghais, a former Kuwaiti governor to OPEC, is the only candidate for the role of secretary general, the two sources added. OPEC is expected to elect a new secretary general at its meeting on Jan. 4, a third source said. (Reuters)

## Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

## Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,804.71	(0.1)	(0.3)	(4.9)
Silver/Ounce	22.83	(0.8)	(0.8)	(13.5)
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	79.23	0.4	4.1	53.0
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	76.56	0.8	3.8	57.8
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	3.34	0.0	(5.8)	40.3
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	112.25	2.5	7.4	49.2
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	139.25	3.7	6.1	100.4
Euro	1.13	0.3	0.3	(7.1)
Yen	114.95	0.1	0.5	11.3
GBP	1.35	0.4	0.8	(1.3)
CHF	1.09	0.3	0.5	(3.3)
AUD	0.73	0.3	0.4	(5.8)
USD Index	95.93	(0.3)	(0.1)	6.7
RUB	74.02	0.4	0.5	(0.5)
BRL	0.18	(1.4)	(0.5)	(8.9)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,243.95	0.1	1.2	20.6
DJ Industrial	36,488.63	0.2	1.5	19.2
S&P 500	4,793.06	0.1	1.4	27.6
NASDAQ 100	15,766.22	(0.1)	0.7	22.3
STOXX 600	487.98	0.1	1.3	13.4
DAX	15,852.25	(0.5)	0.6	6.6
FTSE 100	7,420.69	1.3	1.3	13.4
CAC 40	7,161.52	(0.0)	1.3	19.6
Nikkei	28,906.88	(0.7)	(0.1)	(5.4)
MSCI EM	1,217.93	(0.7)	(0.2)	(5.7)
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,597.00	(0.9)	(0.6)	6.2
HANG SENG	23,086.54	(0.8)	(0.6)	(15.7)
BSE SENSEX	57,806.49	0.0	1.9	18.6
Bovespa	104,107.20	(1.6)	(1.2)	(20.6)
RTS	1,589.74	(1.4)	0.4	14.6

Source: Bloomberg (\*\$ adjusted returns)

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