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The economies of Gulf oil producers are expected to stage a full recovery in 2010 as they will net more petrodollars from high prices and an increase in their oil output because of global recovery, according to report released by the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

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Arabian markets extended their downward slope during this week, declining by 1.3% relative to the previous week, as per Morgan Stanley Capital International Arabian Markets Index, in the absence of local major drivers, this bucking the rising trend in global equity markets mirrored by a 2.4% increase in All Countries World Index. The UAE equity markets were the best performer in the region this week, climbing by 4.1% relative to the previous week, supported by real estate stocks. The Egyptian Exchange rose by 2.2% week-on-week after a broad based sell-off from Egyptian and Arab investors left many equities in declines. The Kuwait Stock Exchange dived in the red this week, closing 6.3% lower relative to the previous week, as local investors showed little interest in equities, waiting to see what direction the market will take. The Qatar Exchange traded 1.8% lower in the absence of local news that may support buying sentiment. The banking and real estate stocks led the decline. In Saudi Arabia, the Tadawul was down by 0.7% this week relative to the previous week.

The MENA Weekly Monitor can be accessed via Internet at the following web address: <http://www.banqueaudi.com>

► ECONOMY

IIF forecasts full GCC economic recovery in 2010

The economies of Gulf oil producers are expected to stage a full recovery in 2010 as they will net more petrodollars from high prices and an increase in their oil output resulting from global recovery, according to report a released by the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

The study noted that oil prices could average nearly US\$ 72 a barrel in 2010 compared with nearly US\$ 62 in 2009 while the GCC economies could trail recovering global economies. The report showed the improvement in oil export revenues would boost the GCC's fiscal and current account surpluses.

The IIF's baseline projection for 2010 for the GCC assumes modest global recovery, growth of 2.6%, average oil prices of US\$ 72 per barrel, and that the impact of the troubled family-affiliated conglomerates on banks is contained. But it noted that the recovery of the global economy in 2010 is expected to be sluggish, particularly in advanced economies, as financial systems remain impaired, and households will rebuild savings.

IIF went on to note that despite recent signs of the onset of recovery in many parts of the world, the global economy is still expected to contract by 2.5% in 2009. By later this year, the combination of easing monetary and expansionary fiscal policies should begin to yield some results, and the forecast remains for a return to modest global growth in 2010.

The report further stated that if advanced economies move out of recession and global demand for oil recovers, a rebound in oil production of around 3% in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the UAE will be reflected in an overall real GDP growth rate of 3.5% in these countries. The report expected Qatar's nominal growth rate to exceed 30%, driven by a 60% rise in gas production.

As per the report, GCC activity in the non-hydrocarbons sector will continue to be supported by government spending on infrastructure and social sectors. While the private sector will recover modestly, it will grow at a much slower pace compared to recent years. Past experience shows that private investment tends to recover slowly from downturns, especially those that involve financial stress.

Turning to inflation, the IIF expected the rate to decline to two per cent this year before rising slightly to three per cent in 2010. It said cost-push pressures from a more-than-expected weakening of the dollar against major currencies over the next few months, and a modest recovery in non-fuel commodity prices would add limited inflationary pressures next year. It showed that weak domestic demand, the correction in housing-related prices and the fall in global commodity prices have brought down the 12-month infla-

tion rate from over 13% in July 2008 to only 3% in July 2009. Continued slackening in the GCC economies will dampen domestically driven inflation pressures in 2010.

EFG Hermes forecasts GCC real GDP growth at -0.9% in 2009 and 6.2% in 2010

EFG Hermes, in its latest report on GCC Economics, depicted a positive real GDP growth in GCC countries for the year 2010, due to higher oil prices and production levels. According to the investment bank, the combined nominal GDP of GCC countries is expected to accelerate by 19.1%, while the weighted real GDP would accelerate by 6.2%, reversing its previous year's (2009) contraction of 0.9%.

The report further explained that both higher production levels and the acceleration of non-oil GDP, within the context of expansionary government spending, would contribute positively to the real GDP acceleration in 2010. Also, EFG Hermes predicts that the boost in real GDP growth is mainly due to Qatar's real GDP growth, which is forecasted to be 17.9% in 2010, and which in turn would result from the visible increase in Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) production. Saudi Arabia, with an expected growth 4.6% in real GDP in 2010, would have a lower yet still significant contribution to real GDP growth in the region.

For most of the GCC countries, EFG Hermes expects a rise in non-oil GDP in 2010, with respective expansions of 8.5%, 4.6% 4.0%, 3.6%, 3.0%, and 2.6% for Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, the UAE, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Lastly, GCC countries are expected to see an improvement in both fiscal and current account positions due to higher oil earnings. EFG Hermes indicated that Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE will see fiscal surpluses over 9.0% of GDP. In contrast, Oman and Bahrain will realize a current account deficit of 1.6% and a fiscal deficit of 0.1% respectively.

GCC Real GDP growth by country (%)

	2007	2008e	2009f	2010f
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3.4	4.2	-1.0	4.6
United Arab Emirates	5.2	7.4	-4.0	4.3
Kuwait	4.4	5.7	-3.8	3.8
Qatar	8.5	12.7	6.4	17.9
Oman	7.7	13.0	4.1	5.6
Bahrain	8.4	6.3	1.7	2.6

Sources: EFG Hermes, Bank Audi's Research Department

Jones Lang LaSalle detects a rebound in tenant and occupier sentiment in the MENA region

The global real estate and investment management firm Jones Lang LaSalle issued its October edition of MENA

House View. According to the publication, tenant and occupier sentiment has significantly improved over the past six months. However, the latter still has to induce increased leasing signatures, which the company expects within the next 6 to 12 months.

Over the past 16 months, commercial leasing markets across the MENA region have been baring the consequences of the global financial crisis. Hence, demand for office space across all sectors of the economy has been going down from mid-2008. Consequently, revenues declined and the majority of occupiers reviewed their approach to real estate. As a result, many firms placed their expansion strategies on hold which led to lack of activity growth, or attempted to renegotiate current leases with landlords. An increase of vacant office space led to a falling demand as landlords were incapable of meeting occupiers' financial demands.

Currently, the sentiment of tenants and occupiers is improving due to key factors; first, business confidence has been advancing reflected by strong performance indicators such as oil prices and equity markets leading to positive economic forecasts. Additionally, the report mentioned the IMF 2010 growth forecasts for the Middle East region reaching 4.2%, 0.5% higher than July estimations. Second, the availability of competitively priced office space has pushed down general leasing, values which comes in favour of both tenants and occupiers. Dubai witnessed a significant reduction of rentals along with continued confidence which reinforced its position in the region as the most competitive market for office lease.

It was also signaled that a substantial component of real estate demand will come from multinational companies. Almost 75% of overseas multinationals have representation in the region, mainly concentrated in Cairo, Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai. Another additional demand is generated by Small and Medium enterprises (SMEs). In fact, the sig-

nificant number of SMEs recruiting an average of 20 to 100 employees creates a large employment base, consequently enhancing demand for business establishments.

Dun & Bradstreet and NCB reveal a positive business outlook for Saudi Arabia

According to the 4th quarter Business Optimism Survey, released by the National Commercial Bank in association with Dun and Bradstreet South Asia Middle East, a financial data and business information provider, Saudi Arabia is now seeing a trend of growing optimism among respondents from both the hydrocarbon and non-hydrocarbon sectors.

This pick-up is in fact in line with the recently observed global recovery and with surging oil prices, which have now crossed the US\$ 80 per barrel in international markets. Also, in June, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) decreased the reverse repo rate by 50% to discourage banks from placing money at its accounts, leading to an increase in the money supply, thus the injection of more liquidity into the market. In addition, the Kingdom launched an expansionary fiscal policy. The survey expressed that both incentives contributed to the raise of the Kingdom's business community optimism. In turn, the recovery in business confidence is likely to boost demand levels as well as enlarge profitability of businesses in the Kingdom in the fourth quarter of 2009.

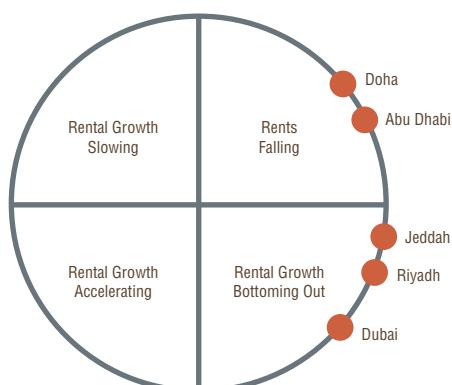
The survey measures the improvement in business confidence by measuring variation in three parameters, namely volume of sales recorded by businesses in the country, level of selling prices, and net profits.

In the hydrocarbon sector, business optimism in relation to profitability has increased from 38 in the third quarter of 2009 to 48 in the fourth quarter, due to the surging oil prices. On the other hand, in the non-hydrocarbon sectors, except manufacturing, business optimism improved in relation to volume of sales and selling prices. In the manufacturing sector, a rise was detected in all three parameters.

Lastly, the business community in Saudi Arabia has polled raw material cost as their top concern with 51% of respondents citing this as a major factor impacting their business. The manufacturing sector, followed by the trade sector is most concerned about increase in raw material costs, while availability of skilled labor is the top concern for transport and communications firms. In the oil and gas segment, project delays is the chief factor impacting business, while transport and development and discovery costs are also important issues.

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GCC Office Property Clock Q3 2009



Sources: Jones Lang LaSalle, Bank Audi's Research Department

► SURVEYS

ICAEW sees Gulf businesses as most confident about growth expectations worldwide

Businesses in the Gulf have been hard hit, as those in other regions, by the economic downturn. However, they are less negatively affected than others by changes in consumer demand and global commodity prices, as per the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW) Global Enterprise Survey. Businesses across the world, and especially in the Gulf, are currently increasingly positive towards further globalization and are developing their globalization strategies.

The 2009 ICAEW Global Enterprise Survey measures the impact of the economic downturn on businesses and looks at their growth plans and attitudes towards globalization and regulation in five regions across the world, namely the Gulf, the United Kingdom, the European Union, Asia (Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore) and the United States.

The study found that Gulf businesses are the most positive in their growth expectations, with two-thirds planning annual turnover growth in excess of 5%, ahead of all other regions. Additionally, most Gulf businesses regard their domestic regulatory and taxation environment as business-friendly (87%), much in line with those in Asia, but ahead of those in the US and, particularly, Europe. Gulf businesses are however more likely than those in other regions to witness high short-term borrowing costs.

ICAEW regional director for the Middle East said that last year was a critical one for businesses across the world, but it is heartening to see that the Gulf still remains positive about business and growth prospects not just locally, but also globally. Over half of the Gulf businesses surveyed plan to expand the target countries they sell products to, and many plan acquisitions in other countries to enhance their market presence within the next five years.

However, in order to maintain these levels of confidence, more has to be done to elevate financial reporting standards in the Middle East. Consistent and transparent financial reporting is essential to drive confidence and this requires well qualified and technically up-to-date professionals who have been trained within a rigorous and ethical framework. Those Gulf businesses affected by the downturn anticipate, typically, that it will continue for another one to two years (47%), ie, half way into 2010 or 2011, much in line with views in the other regions. However, 40% of them were expecting the end of its effects within the next year, a little less optimistic than those in Asia (nearly 50%) but more optimistic than those in the EU and US (around 30%).

Gulf businesses are generally positive about the benefits of the globalization of markets and are looking to expand their international trading activities. However, they see corruption as the greatest barrier to international expansion and

are also more likely than those in other regions to cite access to finance as a barrier to globalization.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), a global accountancy body, provides practical support to over 132,000 members in more than 160 countries, working with government regulators and industry officials in order to ensure the highest standards are maintained. It provides financial knowledge and guidance based on technical standards.

Abu Dhabi tops Lonely Planet's list of the 10 cities to visit in 2010

Lonely Planet issued a report titled "The Best Ten Cities to visit in 2010" according to which Abu Dhabi came in first in the ranking. Based on several scientific and field studies that took into consideration a range of factors, the emirate surpassed Charleston (South Carolina), Cork (Ireland), Cuenca (Ecuador), Istanbul (Turkey), Kyoto (Japan), Lecce (Italy), Sarajevo (Bosnia & Herzegovina), Singapore, and Vancouver (Canada).

Although the report attributes the selection of some cities to the global financial crisis, the fact is that this does not apply to Abu Dhabi, which was not as badly impacted as other well-known urban centers the world over. The change witnessed by the emirate in the past ten years has been measured with careful, studied development to meet requirements. This has ensured the global financial meltdown did not hit it too badly.

The Abu Dhabi government has embarked on an integrated strategic plan to develop the emirate's vital facilities and infrastructure to upgrade living conditions of citizens and residents and to provide them with the best services. It also implemented several big-budget recreational and tourism projects.

At the domestic level, the strategic plan was to turn Abu Dhabi into an emirate that offered the best services for the lowest prices. Accordingly, implementation of the e-government project was stepped up to cope with the high-tech age. Next were steps to implement infrastructure projects like highways, bridges and tunnels on and around Abu Dhabi Island and other transportation projects, for which over US\$ 13.6 billion were allocated in 2006.

Meanwhile, Abu Dhabi enhanced its presence on the global tourism map in the past few years and managed to turn itself into an international hub for businesses, entertainment and luxury tourism. There are also many ambitious future plans announced by the Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority with about US\$ 27 billion made available for a chain of hotels and recreational facilities in Abu Dhabi and surrounding islands such as Yas, Saadiyat and Al Reem Island. Several other projects on the man-made islands opposite the Abu Dhabi Corniche.

► CORPORATE NEWS

Marriott International announces five new hotels in the Middle East and Africa region

Marriott International announced last week the signing of five new hotels in the Middle East and Africa region, namely, Egypt, Algeria, Ghana and Morocco.

According to the company's press release, the hotels are scheduled to open under long-term management contracts over the next 36 months and represent the company's Marriott Hotels & Resorts and Marriott Executive Apartments brands. The properties announced would add 1,126 rooms to Marriott International's previously announced Middle East & Africa development pipeline of 44 hotels and 10,800 rooms now under construction or in advanced planning.

Marriott's first hotels in Algeria are the 227-room upscale Algiers Marriott and the 180-unit Algiers Marriott Executive Apartments. Both are planned to open in 2012 and are owned by Trust Real Estate SPA. The two hotels would consist of a high-end shopping mall, offices and residential space.

Marriott's sixth resort on the Red Sea and eighth hotel in Egypt is the 294-room Sahl Hasheesh Marriott Beach Resort. Scheduled to be rebranded in 2011, the resort is a conversion from the existing "The Old Palace Resort" and is owned by Red Sea Hotels Company.

Marriott's first hotel in Sub-Saharan Africa is the 209-room Accra Marriott in Ghana which is scheduled to open in late 2010. The hotel is owned by African Hospitality Ltd.

Marriott's first hotel in Morocco is the 216-room Marrakech Marriott Palm Golf Hotel which is expected to open in 2012. The hotel is owned by a joint venture between J. Partners and Domaine Palm Marrakech SAS. It would be part of a large master development community that would also include an 18-hole golf course, a country club and 250 luxury residences.

Opening between now and year-end 2015, these new properties would boost Marriott's Middle East & Africa's regional presence to more than 70 hotels across six lodging brands totaling nearly 20,000 rooms in 12 countries. The portfolio includes JW Marriott and The Ritz-Carlton hotels in the luxury tier, Marriott Hotels & Resorts and Renaissance Hotel properties in the upscale segment, Courtyard by Marriott in the moderately-priced tier and deluxe Marriott Executive Apartments for extended stay travelers.

Headquartered in Maryland, US, Marriott International is a leading lodging company with more than 3,300 lodging properties in 68 countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the Marriott, JW Marriott, The Ritz-Carlton, Renaissance,

Residence Inn, Courtyard, TownePlace Suites, Fairfield Inn, SpringHill Suites and Bulgari brand names. The company also develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the Marriott Vacation Club, The Ritz-Carlton Destination Club, The Ritz-Carlton Residences and Grand Residences by Marriott brands, as well as Marriott Executive Apartments, furnished corporate housing through its Marriott ExecuStay division, and conference centers.

UAE's National Marine Dredging Company won a bid for construction of four man-made islands in the UAE

UAE's National Marine Dredging Company won a bid for construction of four man-made islands at Zakum oil field for the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company ADNOC at AED 2.3 billion (around US\$ 626.3 million).

According to company officials, the project, which would be implemented over three years, is part of the Zakum Development Company's (ZADCO) plan to increase oil production.

The National Marine Dredging Company started as a division of ADNOC in 1976, and spun off to operate independently in 1979. The company specializes in dredging and land-reclamation projects in the UAE

Established in 1971, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) operates in all areas of the oil and gas industry and since then has steadily broadened its activity establishing companies and subsidiaries and creating an integrated oil and gas industry in Abu Dhabi.

ACC wins contract to build Regent Emirates Pearl Hotel in Abu Dhabi

UAE's Arabian Construction Company (ACC) has been awarded a contract to build the Regent Emirates Pearl Hotel in Abu Dhabi by The Atlas Group, in a joint venture with Tourism Development and Investment Company at an estimated value of AED 870 million (around US\$ 236.9 million).

The Regent Emirates Pearl is scheduled to open in 2012 and covers an area of 10,000 square meters. The project would have four podium levels with 45 floors, 377 rooms and suites and 60 furnished apartments.

Established in 1967, Arabian Construction Company (ACC) is a construction and design company. The company's principle activities comprise civil, infrastructure, heavy, electrical and mechanical contracting for residential and commercial buildings, power and desalination plants, as well as industrial equipment procurement and installation.

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► CAPITAL MARKETS

The UAE markets up by 4.1%, supported by realty stocks

Arabian markets extended their downward slope during this week, declining by 1.3% relative to the previous week, as per Morgan Stanley Capital International Arabian Markets Index, in the absence of local new drivers, thus bucking the rising trend in global equity markets mirrored by a 2.4% increase in All Countries World Index.

The UAE equity markets were the best performer in the MENA region during this week, climbing by 4.1% relative to the previous week, supported by real estate stocks. Sorouh Real Estate Company was among the most traded shares this week and its price moved 9.0% higher to close at AED 3.40. Aldar Properties' share price closed at AED 5.99, up by 13.0% relative to the previous week. Emaar properties ended 7.0% higher at AED 4.44. Deyaar development's share price moved 1.4% higher, closing at AED0.74. On the other hand, National Central Cooling Co.'s share price moved 2.2% higher to close at AED 0.94. The company posted a 52% rise in third-quarter results that beat most analysts' expectations. In addition, Taqa's share price rose by 1.5% week-on-week to close at AED 1.37. The company said its third-quarter net profit after minority interests slumped by 88% from a year earlier, partly due to lower oil prices.

The Egyptian Exchange increased by 2.2% this week. In fact, the market crumbled after a broad based sell-off from Egyptian and Arab investors left many equities in declines. Telecom Egypt's share price traded 4.3% higher to reach LE 17.85. The state-owned company, which is the only provider of fixed-line services in the country, reported a 13% slide in third quarter profit, yet showed an improvement in EBITDA, effective tax rates and healthy growth in

revenues. Orascom Construction Holding's share price moved 0.4% higher to close at LE 242.90. Orascom Telecom Holding's share price edged up by 0.6% to LE 35.07. On the other hand, Talaat Moustafa Group Holding's share price dropped by 1.0% week-on-week, closing at LE 6.97. The company's profits for the first nine months of 2009 decreased by 30% relative to the corresponding period of the previous year. Commercial International Bank's share price closed 3.0% higher at LE 57.00. CIB said its net profit for the first nine months of the year were roughly stable relative to the same period of the previous year, as interest rate cuts and slowing economic growth in Egypt hit earnings.

The Kuwait Stock Exchange dived in the red this week, closing 6.3% lower relative to the previous week, as local investors showed little interest in equities. The KSE is among the most expensive markets in the region, trading with a P/E of 20.1 times as compared to a P/E of 16.2 times for the region. Zain's share price fell by 10.3% week-on-week, closing at KWD 1.04. There were talks circulating in the market for some time about a deal to sell 46% stake of Zain to a consortium of Indian Telecom firms and a Malaysian investor for US\$ 14 billion. Bringing around USD 14 billion to the Kuwait market from abroad through the sale of a stake in Zain Group in current difficult financial circumstances would have a great impact on the market and especially on Kuwaiti banks. Kuwait's Agility, the Gulf's largest logistics firm by market value, saw a 5.1% drop in its price this week, closing at KWD 1.12. The company posted a 15% increase in its third quarter net profit to KWD 40.5 million on contracts with US forces deployed in Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Elsewhere in the Gulf, the Qatar Exchange traded 1.8% lower during this week, in the absence of local news that may support buying sentiment. As to the banking stocks, Masraf

CAPITAL MARKETS INDICATORS

Market	Price Index	Week-on-week	Year-to-date	Trading Value	Week-on-week	Volume Traded	Market Capitalization	Turnover ratio	P/E	P/BV
Lebanon	143.1	-2.2%	26.5%	46.9	47.7%	1.8	11,698.4	20.9%	9.5	1.42
Jordan	151.7	2.3%	-6.6%	166.6	17.7%	90.2	32,585.7	26.6%	14.7	1.84
Egypt	842.6	2.2%	42.4%	983.5	19.8%	476.1	91,936.0	55.6%	12.2	1.96
Saudi Arabia	393.3	-0.7%	34.9%	6,643.1	-4.8%	986.3	325,416.6	106.2%	21.2	2.10
Qatar	602.3	-1.8%	-1.0%	413.7	-10.9%	55.9	86,443.4	24.9%	12.4	2.08
UAE	267.6	4.1%	55.7%	1,239.4	-6.8%	1,854.9	150,841.8	42.7%	12.8	1.24
Oman	827.5	-1.0%	18.1%	71.3	-2.8%	61.3	17,225.5	21.5%	12.8	1.83
Bahrain	356.1	-3.5%	-31.1%	4.7	39.5%	7.6	16,470.1	1.5%	10.2	1.06
Kuwait	592.6	-6.3%	-4.5%	686.1	-10.4%	1,204.8	99,438.9	35.9%	20.1	1.38
Morocco	430.1	-3.5%	-5.2%	97.8	82.8%	3.1	66,756.1	7.6%	19.5	3.87
Tunisia	1,161.9	1.9%	27.1%	-	-	2.8	9,004.8	-	-	-
Arabian Markets	488.4	-1.3%	21.7%	10,353.1	-2.9%	4,742.0	898,812.5	59.9%	16.2	1.79

Values in US\$ million; volumes in millions

Sources: MSCI Barra, Zawya Investor, Bank Audi's Research Department

NB: Tunisia's figures are not all available yet, and have therefore been excluded from aggregate Arabian Markets figures

Al Rayan was among the most traded stocks, closing 1.6% lower relative to the previous week to reach QAR 12.10. Qatar National Bank lost 1.9% week-on-week, closing at QAR 152.90. Qatar International Islamic's share price closed 0.4% lower at QAR 44.80. As far as the real estate stocks are concerned, Barwa real estate's share price rose by 0.3% week-on-week, closing at QAR 32.70. Qatar real estate investment saw a 0.4% increase in its share price, closing at QAR 26.20. As to the bond market, Commercial Bank of Qatar sold this week US\$ 1 billion in five-year notes yielding 250 basis points over midswaps and US\$ 600 million in 10-year notes yielding 400 basis points over midswaps. The proceeds will be partially used to repay a US\$ 380 million syndicated loan facility and to fund future growth.

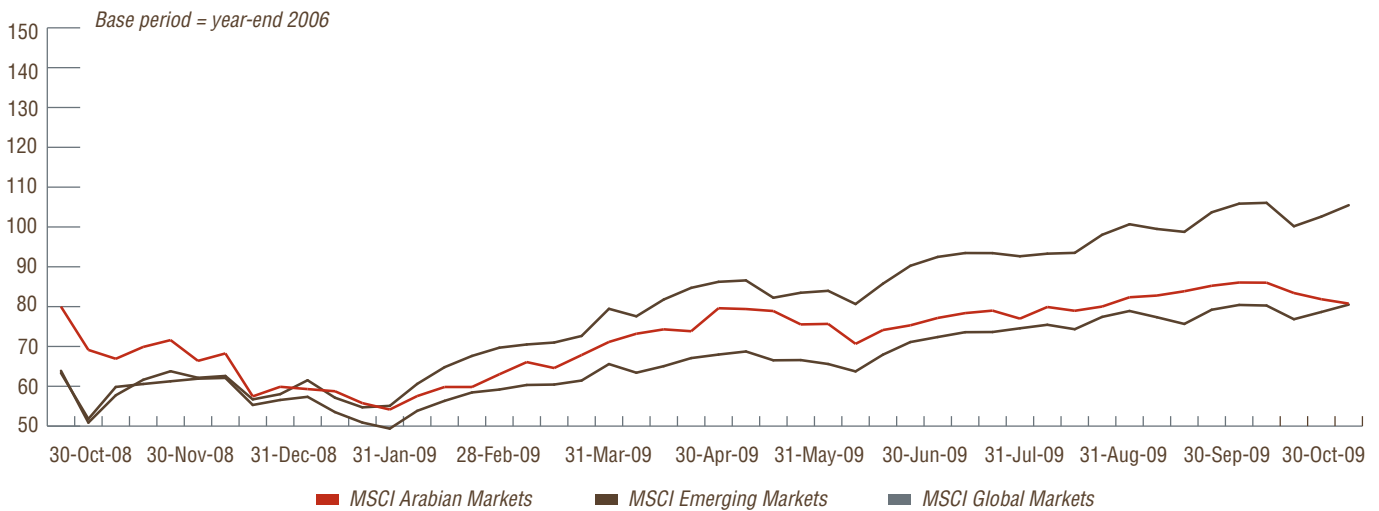
In Saudi Arabia, the Tadawul was down by 0.7% this week relative to the previous week. Alinma Bank was among the

most traded shares this week, showing a 0.4% decline in its price to close at SAR 13.50. On the other hand, Saudi Kayan Petrochemical's share price ended 10.0% lower at SAR 17.50.

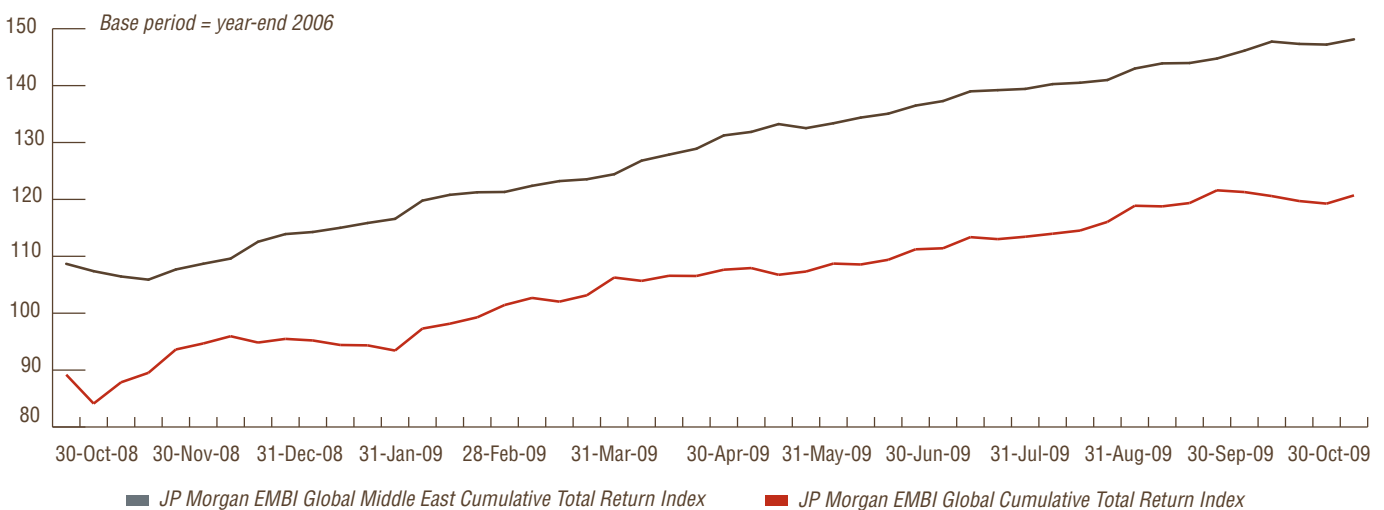
Looking forward, GCC markets may follow an upward slope into the year-end as valuations may look attractive amid signs of improving global economic conditions. In addition, improving crude oil prices supported by low interest rates, ample capital market liquidity and the use of oil as a hedge against US Dollar weakness, shall give a boost to Arabian equity markets. Within this context, it is worth mentioning that EFG Hermes raises its crude oil price forecast to US\$ 62 per barrel in 2009 and to US\$ 80 per barrel in 2010.

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Equity Markets Performance: Arab Markets v/s Benchmarks



Fixed Income Markets Performance: Arab Markets v/s Benchmarks



SOVEREIGN RATINGS

	Standard & Poor's	Moody's	Fitch	EIU
LEVANT				
Lebanon	B-/Stable/C	B2/Stable	B-/Stable/B	CCC/Stable
Syria	NR	NR	NR	CCC/Stable
Jordan	BB/Stable/B	Ba2/Stable	NR	B/Stable
Egypt	BB+/Stable/B	Ba1/Stable	BB+/Stable/B	BB/Stable
Iraq	NR	NR	NR	CC/Stable
GULF				
Saudi Arabia	AA-/Stable/A-1+	A1/Positive	AA-/Stable/F1+	BBB/Stable
UAE	AA/Stable/A-1+	Aa2/Stable	AA/Stable/F1+	BB/Stable
Qatar	AA-/Stable/A-1+	Aa2/Stable	NR	A/Stable
Kuwait	AA-/Stable/A-1+	Aa2/Negative	AA/Stable/F1+	A/Stable
Bahrain	A/Stable/A-1	A2/Negative	A/Stable/F1	BBB/Stable
Oman	A/Stable/A-1	A2/Stable	NR	A/Stable
Yemen	NR	NR	NR	CC/Stable
NORTH AFRICA				
Algeria	NR	NR	NR	BBB/Stable
Morocco	BB+/Stable/B	Ba1/Stable	BBB-/Stable/F3	BB/Stable
Tunisia	BBB/Stable/A-3	Baa2/Stable	BBB/Stable/F2	BB/Stable
Libya	A-/Stable/A-2	NR	BBB+/Stable/F2	BB/Stable
Sudan	NR	NR	NR	C/Stable

NR = Not Rated

INTERNATIONAL MARKET RATES

	13-Nov-09	06-Nov-09	31-Dec-08	Weekly change	Year-to-date change
US Prime Rate	3.25%	3.25%	3.25%	0.00%	0.00%
3-M Libor	0.27%	0.27%	1.43%	0.00%	-1.15%
US Discount Rate	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.00%	0.00%
US 10-year bond	3.42%	3.50%	2.22%	-0.08%	1.20%

FX RATES (per US\$)

	13-Nov-09	06-Nov-09	31-Dec-08	Weekly change	Year-to-date change
LEVANT					
Lebanese Pound (LBP)	1,507.50	1,507.50	1,507.50	0.0%	0.0%
Syrian Pound (SYP)	45.75	45.85	46.45	-0.2%	-1.5%
Jordanian Dinar (JOD)	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.0%	0.1%
Egyptian Pound (EGP)	5.45	5.47	5.49	-0.2%	-0.6%
Iraqi Dinar (IQD)	1,150.00	1,150.00	1,155.00	0.0%	-0.4%
GULF					
Saudi Riyal (SAR)	3.75	3.75	3.75	0.0%	0.0%
UAE Dirham (AED)	3.67	3.67	3.67	0.0%	0.0%
Qatari Riyal (QAR)	3.64	3.64	3.64	0.0%	0.0%
Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD)	0.29	0.29	0.28	-0.3%	3.3%
Bahraini Dinar (BHD)	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.0%	0.0%
Omani Riyal (OMR)	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.0%	0.0%
Yemeni Riyal (YER)	203.00	203.00	199.55	0.0%	1.7%
NORTH AFRICA					
Algerian Dinar (DZD)	70.74	72.10	69.44	-1.9%	1.9%
Moroccan Dirham (MAD)	7.61	7.66	8.01	-0.7%	-5.1%
Tunisian Dinar (TND)	1.29	1.29	1.31	-0.2%	-1.8%
Libyan Dinar (LYD)	1.20	1.21	1.24	-0.8%	-3.3%
Sudanese Pound (SDG)	2.26	2.27	2.18	-0.2%	3.5%

COMMODITIES (in US\$)

	13-Nov-09	06-Nov-09	31-Dec-08	Weekly change	Year-to-date change
Crude oil barrel (Brent)	75.1	75.3	39.8	-0.3%	88.5%
Gold ounce	1,118.8	1,094.7	878.2	2.2%	27.4%
Silver ounce	17.4	17.4	11.3	0.2%	54.0%
Platinum ounce	1,391.0	1,340.5	924.5	3.8%	50.5%

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