



LMC Weekly Market Summary and Islamic Capital Markets News



Good day,

The week began with a broad advance in equities that built on the previous week's gains driven by better economic data. The brighter mood got a further lift from expectations that the European Union would offer the U.K. a conditional extension to Brexit negotiations, avoiding a no-deal exit at the end of this month. Major equity markets then reversed course Tuesday after U.S. officials expressed concern about China pushing back on U.S. trade demands, and President Donald Trump said tariffs on China might remain in place even in the event of a deal being reached. Stocks soared higher again after Wednesday's Fed meeting. The U.S. central bank left its policy rate unchanged, but surprised investors by scaling back its projected interest-rate increases this year to zero and announcing a sooner-than-expected end to its quantitative tightening operations (QT). That sent Treasury yields plunging and signalled to investors that the Fed's tightening cycle could in fact be over, rather than "paused". The week finished with a downward spiral Friday after weaker economic data in both Europe and the U.S. pressed bond yields down further, to the point where the U.S. Treasury 3-month/10-year yield curve inverted for the first time since 2007. An inversion of the yield curve will be closely watched as it is a leading indicator of potential recessionary conditions. Equities in Europe and Asia were mixed. Stocks in Italy and Japan climbed, while those in the U.K., Germany, and France lost ground. Economic data from the U.K. was unexpectedly positive, but all eyes remain on Brexit talks.

Regionally, Abu Dhabi Government will launch a new hub for tech startups in collaboration with Japan's SoftBank Group. Mubadala Ventures, the US-based venture capital arm of Abu Dhabi's Mubadala Investment Company, will launch the new tech hub, known as Hub71, in Abu Dhabi on Sunday. The new hub will offer AED520 million (\$142 million) of investment to tech startups, Arabian Business reported. It will tap into the government's Ghadan 21 initiative, the \$13.6 billion stimulus package to provide jobs, Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) boost. Drees & Sommer, the international real estate and construction consultancy company with head office in Germany, revealed its intentions to launch a global hospitality team in Dubai as an extension to its existing European operation. The new division will provide a full-service offering for investors and owners throughout the Middle East, Africa, Asia, China and the rest of the world. The expansion comes along with the group's vision to raise its investments in the Middle East, the company said in a statement.



Market Summary

Week of March 15 – March 22

Index	Value	Weekly Change	YTD Change
<u>Dow Jones Industrial AVG</u>	25502.32	-1.34	+9.24
<u>FTSE 100 Index</u>	7207.59	-0.29	+7.34
<u>NIKKEI 225</u>	21627.34	+0.82	+8.06
Nymex Crude oil Future WTI	59.04	+0.89	+26.86
Gold	1313.7	+0.86	+2.87
EUR-USD	1.1302	-0.21	-1.42
USD-JPY	109.9238	-1.40	+0.17
GBP-USD	1.3209	-0.61	+3.68
<u>3 month Libor \$</u>	2.60988	-2 bps	-18 bps
<u>5 year swap \$</u>	2.2880	-18 bps	-25 bps
<u>US Treasury 10 year yield</u>	2.4390	-15 bps	-25 bps

[More Market Info...](#)

Capital markets news

Week of March 17 – March 24

Islamic Finance

- Masraf Al Rayan of Qatar Said to Plan Islamic Bond Offering – [Bloomberg...](#)
- Saudi Telecom Plans Debut Dollar Sukuk With \$5 Billion Program - [More...](#)
- QIB USD 5 Year Sukuk \$750 Million at MS+150BPS - [More...](#)
- Qatar to Start Energy Bank With \$10 Billion Capital in 4Q - [More...](#)
- Fitch Affirms Qatar National Bank at 'A+'; Outlook Stable - [More...](#)

Our Products

Short Term Sukuk Centre:

Short Term Sukuk is a short-term Investment program fully backed by Sharia'a Compliant Sukuk with various tenors (short to medium) and various obligors managed by LMC and offered to F.Is, Corps and sophisticated investors as short term investment 1 month to 1 year terms with more attractive rates than the average returns offered by FIs on Wakalat & Murabahat.

Kindly find below the indicative rates,

Tenor	Indicative Rates
1 month	2.60 %
2 months	2.65 %
3 months	2.85 %
6 months	3.00 %
1 Year	3.40 %

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