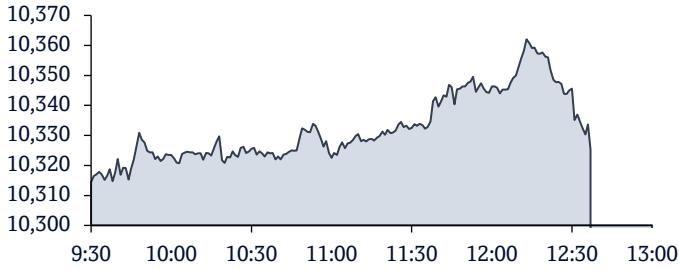


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index rose 0.2% to close at 10,325.3. Gains were led by the Banks & Financial Services and Insurance indices, gaining 1.0% and 0.6%, respectively. Top gainers were Damaan Islamic Insurance Company and Qatar National Cement Company, rising 4.1% and 3.9%, respectively. Among the top losers, National Leasing fell 2.8%, while Meeza QSTP was down 2.6%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell 0.3% to close at 11,746.2. Losses were led by the Diversified Financials and Utilities indices, falling 1.3% each. Alistithmar AREIC Diversified REIT Fund declined 3.4%, while Saudi Tadawul Group Holding Co. was down 2.9%.

Dubai: The DFM Index gained 0.5% to close at 5,241.3. The Materials index rose 5.7%, while the Industrials index was up 0.9%. National General Insurance Company rose 11.9%, while National Cement Company was up 5.8%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained 0.6% to close at 9,527.5. The Consumer Discretionary index rose 1.3%, while the Real Estate index gained 1.0%. Abu Dhabi National Takaful Co. rose 14.9%, while Emirates Insurance Co. was up 11.1%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.2% to close at 7,917.9. The Health Care and Consumer Services indices rose 3.2% each. Kuwait Hotels rose 32.2%, while Kuwait Real Estate Holding Company was up 19.0%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index gained 0.1% to close at 4,297.8. Gains were led by the Industrial and Financial indices, rising 1.0% and 0.3%, respectively. National Aluminum Products Co. rose 27.8%, while Oman Flour Mills was up 3.7%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.5% to close at 1,902.7. The Real Estate index rose 2.0%, while the Materials was up 0.5%. Bahrain Car Parks Company (Amakin) rose 9.8%, while Bahrain Kuwait Insurance Company was up 2.9%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Damaan Islamic Insurance Company	3.903	4.1	480.0	(1.3)
Qatar National Cement Company	3.503	3.9	410.8	(12.8)
Vodafone Qatar	2.378	3.4	9,389.6	29.9
Qatar Islamic Bank	20.80	2.2	1,777.4	(2.6)
QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co.	1.980	1.9	63.1	(4.1)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Baladna	1.223	(1.8)	32,979.7	(2.2)
Masraf Al Rayan	2.230	0.8	22,639.9	(9.5)
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co.	1.277	0.8	12,325.5	5.4
National Leasing	0.731	(2.8)	11,234.1	(6.3)
Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd.	4.583	(2.0)	10,335.2	10.5

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,325.29	0.2	0.6	0.9	(2.3)	128.95	167,059.3	11.3	1.3	4.9
Dubai*	5,241.30	0.5	0.9	2.8	1.6	131.42	251,159.8	9.4	1.5	5.7
Abu Dhabi*	9,527.50	0.6	1.1	1.7	1.2	612.93	734,285.8	21.0	2.5	2.4
Saudi Arabia	11,746.20	(0.3)	(0.2)	(2.3)	(2.4)	1,832.99	2,558,421.1	18.3	2.2	3.8
Kuwait	7,917.92	0.2	(0.2)	(1.9)	7.5	368.02	166,425.7	17.7	1.8	3.0
Oman	4,297.82	0.1	0.6	(1.6)	(6.1)	11.41	30,862.7	9.5	0.8	6.4
Bahrain	1,902.67	0.6	0.1	(2.5)	(4.2)	1.5	19,616.6	14.1	1.3	9.7

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 Apr 25	28 Apr 25	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	469.9	394.2	19.2
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	609,260.7	608,216.3	0.2
Volume (mn)	196.6	185.2	6.1
Number of Transactions	25,605	16,498	55.2
Companies Traded	53	52	1.9
Market Breadth	21:29	29:19	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	24,358.34	0.2	0.6	1.0	11.3
All Share Index	3,803.73	0.3	0.6	0.7	11.5
Banks	4,659.46	1.0	0.8	(1.6)	10.0
Industrials	4,208.45	(0.6)	1.7	(0.9)	15.6
Transportation	5,558.41	(1.4)	(0.5)	7.6	13.1
Real Estate	1,616.87	(1.0)	(2.2)	0.0	19.7
Insurance	2,304.04	0.6	1.1	(1.9)	12.0
Telecoms	2,180.21	0.4	0.2	21.2	14.0
Consumer Goods and Services	7,914.97	(0.6)	(1.0)	3.2	19.4
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,982.86	0.3	0.5	2.3	13.6

GCC Top Gainers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	Abu Dhabi	11.90	4.6	5,232.1	14.2
Saudi Arabian Mining Co.	Saudi Arabia	49.55	3.2	14,280.6	(1.5)
First Abu Dhabi Bank	Abu Dhabi	14.54	3.1	15,036.8	5.8
Qatar Islamic Bank	Qatar	20.80	2.2	1,777.4	(2.6)
Saudi Research & Media Gr	Saudi Arabia	178.00	2.2	142.3	(35.3)

GCC Top Losers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
NMDC Gr.	Abu Dhabi	23.86	(3.4)	1,203.7	(3.5)
Multiply Gr.	Abu Dhabi	2.11	(3.2)	72,910.2	1.9
Saudi Tadawul Group	Saudi Arabia	185.00	(2.9)	278.5	(14.7)
Saudi Kayan Petrochem. Co	Saudi Arabia	5.83	(2.8)	5,480.3	(17.0)
Dar Al Arkan Real Estate	Saudi Arabia	22.60	(2.4)	1,796.0	49.7

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%
National Leasing	0.731	(2.8)	11,234.1	(6.3)
Meeza QSTP	3.019	(2.6)	741.9	(7.8)
Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd.	4.583	(2.0)	10,335.2	10.5
Al Mahar	2.320	(1.9)	42.4	(5.3)
Baladna	1.223	(1.8)	32,979.7	(2.2)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Masraf Al Rayan	2.230	0.8	50,324.1	(9.5)
Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd.	4.583	(2.0)	48,215.2	10.5
Baladna	1.223	(1.8)	40,864.3	(2.2)
QNB Group	16.35	0.9	39,192.5	(5.4)
Qatar Islamic Bank	20.80	2.2	36,818.0	(2.6)

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index rose 0.2% to close at 10,325.3. The Banks & Financial Services and Insurance indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from Qatari shareholders despite selling pressure from non-Qatari shareholders.
- Damaan Islamic Insurance Company and Qatar National Cement Company were the top gainers, rising 4.1% and 3.9%, respectively. Among the top losers, National Leasing fell 2.8%, while Meeza QSTP was down 2.6%.
- Volume of shares traded on Tuesday rose by 6.1% to 196.6mn from 185.2mn on Monday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 171.0mn, volume for the day was 14.9% higher. Baladna and Masraf Al Rayan were the most active stocks, contributing 16.8% and 11.5% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy%*	Sell%*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	30.30%	29.21%	5,147,172.95
Qatari Institutions	30.50%	27.52%	14,019,937.76
Qatari	60.80%	56.73%	19,167,110.72
GCC Individuals	0.27%	1.55%	(6,015,800.60)
GCC Institutions	2.32%	2.53%	(977,139.64)
GCC	2.59%	4.08%	(6,992,940.25)
Arab Individuals	10.22%	11.47%	(5,857,069.95)
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
Arab	10.22%	11.47%	(5,857,069.95)
Foreigners Individuals	2.67%	2.64%	121,680.35
Foreigners Institutions	23.72%	25.09%	(6,438,780.87)
Foreigners	26.38%	27.73%	(6,317,100.52)

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
04-29	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Wholesale Inventories MoM	Mar	0.50%	0.60%	0.50%
04-29	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	JOLTS Job Openings	Mar	7192k	7500k	7480k
04-29	EU	European Central Bank	M3 Money Supply YoY	Mar	3.60%	4.00%	3.90%

Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting 1Q2025 results	No. of days remaining	Status
QNNS	Qatar Navigation (Milaha)	30-Apr-25	0	Due
AKHI	Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Company	30-Apr-25	0	Due
QOIS	Qatar Oman Investment Company	30-Apr-25	0	Due
ORDS	Ooredoo	30-Apr-25	0	Due
IQCD	Industries Qatar	30-Apr-25	0	Due
GISS	Gulf International Services	30-Apr-25	0	Due
QGMD	Qatari German Company for Medical Devices	30-Apr-25	0	Due
ZHCD	Zad Holding Company	30-Apr-25	0	Due
MCCS	Mannai Corporation	30-Apr-25	0	Due
QISI	Qatar Islamic Insurance	30-Apr-25	0	Due

Qatar

- QGTS's bottom line rises 3.2% YoY and 19.7% QoQ in 1Q2025, beating our estimate** – Qatar Gas Transport Company Limited's (QGTS) net profit rose 3.2% YoY (+19.7% QoQ) to QR433.2mn in 1Q2025, beating our estimate of QR403.3mn (variation of +7.4%). The company's revenue came in at QR908.6mn in 1Q2025, which represents an increase of 1.5% YoY (+0.5% QoQ), in line with our estimated revenue of QR895.6mn (variation +1.4%). EPS amounted to QR0.08 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.08 in 1Q2024. (QSE, QNBFS)
- QLMI posts 12.8% YoY decrease but 49.3% QoQ increase in net profit in 1Q2025, misses our estimate** – QLM Life & Medical Insurance Company's (QLMI) net profit declined 12.8% YoY (but rose 49.3% on QoQ basis) to QR15.2mn in 1Q2025, missing our estimate of QR18.5mn (variation of -17.7%). The company's insurance revenue came in at QR299.5mn in 1Q2025, which represents an increase of 7.2% YoY. However, on QoQ basis insurance revenue fell 13.9%, missing our estimated revenue of QR321.3mn (variation -6.8%). EPS amounted to QR0.04 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.05 in 1Q2024. (QSE, QNBFS)
- MPHC posts 4.0% YoY decrease but 22.4% QoQ increase in net profit in 1Q2025** – Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Company's (MPHC) net profit declined 4.0% YoY (but rose 22.4% on QoQ basis) to QR186.2mn in 1Q2025. The company's share of results from joint ventures came in at QR166.4mn in 1Q2025, which represents an increase of 7.0% YoY (+37.7% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.015 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.015 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- QAMC posts 82.7% YoY increase but 16.3% QoQ decline in net profit in 1Q2025** – Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Company's (QAMC) net profit rose 82.7% YoY (but declined 16.3% on QoQ basis) to QR156.4mn in 1Q2025. The company's share of results from a joint venture came in at QR144.4mn in 1Q2025, which represents an increase of 113.5% YoY. However, on QoQ basis share of results from a joint venture fell 15.8%. EPS amounted to QR0.028 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.015 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- QATI posts 3.3% YoY increase but 3.2% QoQ decline in net profit in 1Q2025** – Qatar Insurance Company's (QATI) net profit rose 3.3% YoY (but declined 3.2% on QoQ basis) to QR201.0mn in 1Q2025. The company's insurance revenue came in at QR1,905.9mn in 1Q2025, which represents a decrease of 12.8% YoY (-12.4% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.046 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.045 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- Qatar Insurance: Board of directors meeting results** - Qatar Insurance announces the results of its Board of Directors meeting held on 29/04/2025 and approved establishing a branch in Saudi Arabia, subject to approval of relevant regulatory and supervisory authorities. (QSE)
- WDAM reports net loss of QR10.3mn in 1Q2025** – Widam Food Company (WDAM) reported net loss of QR10.3mn in 1Q2025 as compared to net profit of QR10.5mn in 1Q2024 and net loss of QR48.9mn in 4Q2024. The company's revenue came in at QR119.5mn in 1Q2025, which represents a decrease of 41.5% YoY. However, on QoQ basis revenue rose 70.1%. Loss per share amounted to QR0.06 in 1Q2025 as compared to EPS of QR0.06 in 1Q2024. (QSE)

- QGRI's bottom line rises 176.0% YoY in 1Q2025** – Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company (QGRI) reported net profit of QR49.6mn in 1Q2025 as compared to net profit of QR18.0mn in 1Q2024 and net loss of QR17.0mn in 4Q2024. The company's insurance revenue came in at QR175.7mn in 1Q2025, which represents a decrease of 13.9% YoY (-19.4% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.057 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.021 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- BRES posts 0.5% YoY increase but 47.1% QoQ decline in net profit in 1Q2025** – Barwa Real Estate Company's (BRES) net profit rose 0.5% YoY (but declined 47.1% on QoQ basis) to QR239.5mn in 1Q2025. The company's rental income came in at QR353.6mn in 1Q2025, which represents a decrease of 4.5% YoY (-1.5% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.062 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.061 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- QCFS posts 13.4% YoY decrease in net profit in 1Q2025** – Qatar Cinema and Film Distribution Company's (QCFS) net profit declined 13.4% YoY, but rose from QR0.02mn in 4Q2024 to QR2.0mn in 1Q2025. The company's revenue came in at QR5.5mn in 1Q2025, which represents a decrease of 13.7% YoY (-66.1% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.032 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.037 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- SIIS's bottom line rises 78.6% YoY and 6.1% QoQ in 1Q2025** – Salam International Investment Limited's (SIIS) net profit rose 78.6% YoY (+6.1% QoQ) to QR20.2mn in 1Q2025. EPS amounted to QR0.018 in 1Q2025 as compared to QR0.010 in 1Q2024. (QSE)
- QE Index ETF discloses its interim condensed financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2025** - QE Index ETF disclosed its interim condensed financial statements for the three-month period ending 31 March 2025. The statements show that the net asset value as of March 31, 2025, amounted to QR419.2mn representing QR10.334 per unit. In addition, QE Index ETF distributed dividends during the second quarter of 2025. (QSE)
- Zad Holding Co. will hold its investors relation conference call on 05/05/2025 to discuss the financial results** - Zad Holding Co. announces that the conference call with the Investors to discuss the financial results for the Quarter 1 2025 will be held on 05/05/2025 at 01:00 PM, Doha Time. (QSE)
- Qatar Oman Investment Company: The AGM endorses items on its agenda** - Qatar Oman Investment Company announces the results of the AGM. The meeting was held on 29/04/2025 and the following resolution were approved Decision of the Ordinary General Assembly meeting: 1- At the beginning the Chairman delivered his speech, by welcoming the attendees and explained the activities of the company addition the final financial statements ending 31 December 2024 , He was also explain the company future plan 2-The External Auditor explained the budget of the company and the accounts which presented to them by the Board of Directors and approved it . 3-Discussion of the audited the financial statement and profit and loss statement for the year ended 31 December 2024 , and approve it . 4-The General Assembly discuss the report of Corporate Governance for 2024 and approve it. 5-The General Assembly decided to approve the Board of Directors' proposal for not distribute dividends to the shareholders. 6- The General Assembly discharge the Board Members for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 and no bonuses were awarded to them. 7-Approved for the offer of (Mazars) and appoint it as External auditor for 2025 and determined the annual fees. (QSE)
- GWC partners Yellow Door Energy to develop solar plants in its three logistic hubs** - Gulf Warehousing Company (GWC) has partnered Yellow Door Energy, a sustainable energy partner for businesses in the Middle East and Africa, to develop solar power plants across three strategic logistics hubs – Logistics Village Qatar, Bu Sulba Warehousing Park and Al Wukair Logistics Park. Matthew Kearns, Acting Group CEO, GWC, said: "This announcement marks a major milestone in integrating sustainable practices across all our operations. Warehouses are key to this, and we are excited to partner with Yellow Door Energy to introduce this innovative solution that will deliver real impact at these three sites." "The Gulf enjoys an abundance of sunlight and this project will harness this renewable resource to power our operations, not only reducing our carbon footprint but also contributing to a more sustainable future for the region." GWC offers a diverse and growing service portfolio, including contract logistics, freight forwarding, transportation, records management, and supply chain consulting. As a member of the UN Global Compact, it has committed to adopting sustainable and socially responsible policies across all its activities, with the aim of reducing carbon emissions by 3% for Scope 1 (direct emissions from fleet) and 6% for Scope 2 (indirect emissions from purchased energy), as well as 20% reduction in waste by 2030. GWC's latest sustainability initiative closely aligns with Qatar National Vision 2030, which targets 4GW of new large-scale renewable energy capacity by 2030, with solar playing a key role. Jeremy Crane, Group CEO, Yellow Door Energy, said: "We are honored to embark on this partnership with GWC to accelerate its sustainability stewardship, reduce its energy costs and contribute to Qatar's Net Zero by 2050 target. "As the largest and most trusted distributed solar developer in the region, Yellow Door Energy is well positioned to help large energy consumers, such as logistics industrial parks, decarbonize their operations and enhance their business resilience. "With over 400MWp of awarded solar assets across 150 sites, our team of dedicated energy professionals is ready to deploy capital, spearhead design and construction whilst adhering to the strictest QHSSE standards, and operate and maintain the solar power systems to maximize their performance during the tenure of the terms." (Gulf Times)
- PM: Qatar, Saudi global destinations for hosting major events** - The meeting resulted in the adoption of five strategic objectives and seven newly developed initiatives for the committees from the Council. He lauded the diligent efforts of the working teams in accomplishing their tasks in all fields. The PM praised the tangible achievements made within the framework of the Qatari-Saudi Coordination Council, which represents a strategic mechanism for cooperation in multiple areas, adding that the two countries have proven that they are capable of achieving exceptional results in the fields of politics, security, and military cooperation, which positively reflect on enhancing security and stability in the region. He affirmed that the wise vision and sound directives of the leadership of both countries have had a significant impact on driving their efforts toward achieving greater coordination and unifying positions on issues of mutual interest. The PM said that sports, culture, and tourism have witnessed distinguished and exemplary cooperation, as the two countries have become global destinations admired for hosting major sports and cultural events. His Excellency added that these activities and achievements not only contribute to driving the local economy and diversifying national income sources but also enhance the image of the two countries on the international stage and elevate their leading positions in the region. He underlined that the relevant committees in the fields of economy, trade, and industry have strengthened industrial and commercial integration between the two countries by identifying priority sectors for cooperation, which will, in turn, build strategic partnerships that benefit the economies of both countries, leading to sustainable development for both nations. The PM added that in the fields of investment and energy, both countries are committed to enhancing investment cooperation and exploring investment opportunities and mutually beneficial projects through the relevant entities, reflecting their shared aspirations to promote sustainable economic growth and achieve prosperity for a better future. He said that today's meeting represents a new strategic milestone in the path of the deep-rooted fraternal relations between the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, adding that he looks forward to fruitful outcomes from these meetings, reaffirming the shared determination to continue working together toward achieving greater integration and prosperity. During the meeting, the Secretariat General Task Force discussed the preparatory efforts and the outcomes of the subcommittees and their working groups over the past period. The Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and HH Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of the Qatari-Saudi Coordination Council. (Qatar Tribune)
- QFCA signs medical agreement with The View Hospital** - Qatar Financial Centre Authority (QFCA), a leading onshore financial and business center in the region, has signed a medical services agreement with The View Hospital, a specialist healthcare provider in Qatar. Under the agreement,

The View Hospital will provide immigration-related medical services on behalf of the Qatar Medical Commission to eligible employees of QFC Authority (QFCA), QFC licensed firms, and their dependents. Additionally, The View Hospital will be submitting all medical test results to both the Qatar Medical Commission and QFCA within 24 hours, ensuring an efficient and seamless process for people going through immigration procedures. Commenting on the partnership, QFC CEO Youssef Mohammed Al Jaidah said, "Partnering with The View Hospital reflects our commitment to supporting our employees and registered firms by streamlining the onboarding process and easing relocation. The agreement ensures that our growing community receives efficient and professional medical services that align with national immigration requirements." The View Hospital CEO Fatih Mehmet Gul said, "We are proud of our partnership with the Qatar Financial Centre Authority, which marks a significant step toward delivering integrated medical services that support Qatar's growing business community." He said, "At The View Hospital, we are committed to a healthcare model that provides high-quality services tailored to the needs of the entire community. This agreement aligns with our strategy to offer fast, efficient care that simplifies official processes and enhances the overall experience for professionals and their families. We believe that accessible, comprehensive healthcare is a cornerstone in building a thriving, investment-friendly business environment in Qatar." (Qatar Tribune)

- Aqarat's reforms to enhance sustainable real estate sector** - The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Aqarat) has officially announced the implementation of the provisions of Law No. (6) of 2014, which governs the regulation of Qatar's real estate sector. This strategic move aligns with Aqarat's broader efforts to enhance the investment climate and drive sustainable sector growth, in support of Qatar National Vision 2030. Speaking at a press conference held yesterday, Chairman of Aqarat. Eng. Khalid bin Ahmed Al Obaidli, described the implementation as a "qualitative leap" in the Authority's mission to elevate transparency, safeguard stakeholders' rights, and standardize real estate practices in accordance with international best practices. As part of this reform initiative, Aqarat has introduced several new measures, including the initial registration of real estate developers, the formation of licensing and dispute resolution committees, and the issuance of detailed guidelines for managing real estate development escrow accounts, in collaboration with the Qatar Central Bank. Eng. Al Obaidli noted that Aqarat will begin licensing developers and real estate projects based on well-defined criteria to ensure market credibility and operational efficiency. The Authority will also strengthen its oversight mechanisms to monitor project implementation and enforce compliance with approved standards reinforcing protection for all parties involved. The press conference also featured the signing of strategic memoranda of understanding with IMG Holding Group and Commercial Bank, aimed at bolstering public-private partnerships and enhancing the real estate investment environment. CEO of [M] Group Holding, Sheikh Jabor bin Mansour Jabor Al Thani, praised Aqarat's initiatives. He said "We commend the Authority's commitment to building a transparent and sustainable investment framework. These reforms lay the foundation for trust between developers and Investors and support projects that reflect the needs of our community. Echoing this sentiment, Assistant General Manager and Head of the Government Sector at Commercial Bank, Sheikh Ali bin Abdullah Al Thani, stated: "In line with our commitment to national development, we are proud to be the first bank in Qatar to launch a Real Estate Escrow Account in partnership with Aqarat. This milestone promotes transparency, fosters Investor confidence, and supports the sector's sustainable future." Eng. Al Obaidli reaffirmed the Authority's commitment to creating a fair and transparent Investment ecosystem. "Together, we are not just building real estate projects but we are shaping a national legacy of innovation, progress, and long-term prosperity," he added. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Qatar named Regional Focal Point for Asia-Pacific in Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm Conventions** - The Secretariat of Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions has nominated Qatar as the Regional Focal Point for Asia-Pacific Group during the 2025 Conferences of the Parties, currently taking place in Geneva under the theme: 'Make Visible the Invisible: sound management of chemicals and waste'. In a statement, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC) announced that

this nomination reflects international recognition of Qatar's leadership in environmental protection and its commitment to the sustainable management of chemicals and waste. It also signifies global confidence in the Qatar's ongoing efforts in this critical field. As part of this role, Qatar will coordinate between the countries of the region and the Conventions' Secretariat, in addition to participating in preparatory work and official meetings. Qatar's participation in this international conference underscores its continued commitment to contributing actively to global efforts toward sound environmental governance. Delegations at the conference are discussing several technical and legal issues related to the implementation of the three conventions, including advancing the Basel Convention on control of transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal - especially in relation to plastic and electronic waste. The conference also addresses the proposed inclusion of new chemical substances under the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, aiming to strengthen regulatory oversight and enhance protection of human health and the environment. The overall objective of the conference is to foster synergy among the three conventions, support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, adopt new decisions that reinforce compliance with legal and technical provisions, and promote capacity-building in developing and least developed countries. (Qatar Tribune)

- Trump's upcoming Doha visit to cement deepening Qatar-US strategic alliance** - President Donald Trump's upcoming visit to Doha – the first by a sitting American president – reflects the growing strategic depth of Qatar-US relations and underscores its significance for regional peace, stability, and investment, according to US ambassador Timmy Davis. Speaking at a Fireside Chat at the Global Security Forum 2025 Tuesday, Davis underlined the depth of the bilateral relationship between the two nations and its growing importance amidst complex regional challenges. He described the US President's visit as an opportunity to showcase the multilateral co-operation between Qatar and the US, extending from economic partnerships to critical security initiatives. "I think the president's trip punctuates the importance of all of our shared bilateral issues, peace and stability in the region, and investment in commerce in both directions," Davis told moderator Peter Bergen, vice president of Global Studies and Fellows at New America and CNN National Security Analyst. Noting a past marked by "misunderstandings" about Qatar and the US, Davis stressed the need to counter those misconceptions with a clear narrative highlighting the mutual benefits of the alliance. He attributed many of these misunderstandings to "incomplete information and ignorance about a country's view on the world," which is then misconstrued as "something nefarious." He said that those who truly understand the Qatar-US relationship, including senior figures in the US government, have a responsibility to tell its story. According to the ambassador, central to this story is Qatar's crucial contribution to US security, demonstrated by the Al Udeid Air Base. He recounted an anecdote about an American citizen who questioned the necessity of the base, to whom Davis responded: "When you're asleep in the US, it's Al Udeid Air Base that is keeping you secure; that air base, that co-operation, that military co-operation is a huge part of our global strategy for security." About the subject of Qatar's relationship with Hamas, an issue of acute sensitivity for many Americans, Davis stressed that Qatar's unique position as a mediator, maintaining channels of communication with Hamas, has been instrumental in de-escalating conflicts in Gaza and securing ceasefires. He emphasized that Qatar's engagement doesn't equate to endorsement but reflects the necessity of having a trusted intermediary to facilitate dialogue and resolve conflicts. He described Qatar as "a valuable honest broker." Davis highlighted Qatar's potential role in fostering a more stable and peaceful future for the Palestinian people. He pointed out that ensuring economic opportunities and social development for Palestinians is essential for lasting peace. The ambassador also pointed to Qatar's key role as a mediator between the US and Iran. He said that while Qatar's relationship with Iran is "effective" rather than "strong," he believes Qatar can be a valuable channel for communication and negotiation, noting their past success in securing the release of American detainees in Iran as proof of their constructive potential. "It is, I think, axiomatic at this point that if the US wants to, sort of investigate whether we can be helpful and how to be helpful in Lebanon, or in Gaza or in North Africa, we start with Qatar because it's a reliable relationship, and if we're going to build partners and partnerships,

we know that the relationship that we have with Qatar will only enhance what it is we're trying to do". (Gulf Times)

International

- **Trump set to soften auto tariffs after industry pushback** - U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday will soften the blow of his auto tariffs through an executive order mixing credits with relief from other levies on parts and materials, after automakers pressed their case with the administration. The changes to Trump's 25% vehicle tariffs will provide auto companies with credits for up to 15% of the value of vehicles assembled domestically. These could be applied against the value of imported parts, allowing time to bring supply chains back home, a senior administration official said. The official said this would work out to allowing automakers to import duty-free parts worth about 3.75% of the sticker-price value of domestically produced cars they sell in the first year, and 2.5% in the second year. The benefit, retroactive to April 3, phases out in the third year to push companies to move parts production to the U.S. Moreover, autos and parts subject to those tariffs would no longer be subject to Trump's other tariffs, including 25% duties on Canadian and Mexican goods, 25% levies on steel and aluminum, as well as 10% duties applied to most other countries. The change also extends a duty-free exemption for North American parts that comply with the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement (USMCA) rules of origin. "If you build your car elsewhere and bring them in on a ship, right, you are going to be at a very, very big disadvantage," the official said. In the case of the metals tariffs, auto makers would pay either the vehicle tariff or the steel and aluminum tariffs, whichever is higher, the official said. A White House official said, however, that the tariff relief would not apply to Chinese parts, which will continue to be subject to Trump's latest tariffs of at least 145% in addition to any prior duties. Trump was scheduled to travel to the U.S. auto hub of Michigan on Tuesday to mark his first 100 days in office, during which the Republican president has upended the global economic order. The state is home to the Detroit Three automakers and more than 1,000 major auto suppliers. Softening the impact of auto levies is his administration's latest move to show flexibility on tariffs which have sown turmoil in financial markets, created uncertainty for businesses and sparked fears of a sharp economic slowdown. The first quarterly report on U.S. gross domestic product covering Trump's term is due out on Wednesday. It is expected to reflect a large drag from the effect of his tariffs, mostly from a record surge in imports as companies and consumers front-loaded purchases of foreign goods to try to beat the new levies. The economy was forecast to have expanded at just a 0.3% annualized rate from January through March, according to a Reuters poll of economists, down from 2.4% in the final three months of 2024. (Reuters)
- **China ramps up global yuan push, seizing on retreating dollar** - As Chinese President Xi Jinping toured Southeast Asia this month to forge closer ties against higher U.S. tariffs, the People's Bank of China was seizing a moment of confusion and disruption in global trade to promote greater usage of the yuan. It won't de-throne the dollar, but as cross-border yuan payments surged to a record in March, analysts say there is renewed appetite for a global yuan as aggressive tariffs shake faith in the U.S. currency and other U.S. assets. In April, PBOC-controlled financial services firm China UnionPay strengthened its payment network in Vietnam and Cambodia, while the central bank announced steps to promote cross-border yuan settlement and other financial services. More specifically the QR-code payments UnionPay was promoting in the Southeastern countries should facilitate transactions for tourists and small businesses, reducing reliance on the dollar. The UnionPay deals build out a network that now extends to more than 30 countries outside China, and represent one end of a push to expand the yuan's reach as an international trading, spending and investment currency. At the other end of the push are PBOC's offshore yuan standby currency swaps with other central banks that hit a record 4.3tn yuan (\$591.2bn) by value in February, cross-border commodity trades settling in digital yuan and efforts to price everything from oil to gold in the Chinese currency. The moves also highlight China's desire for a financial architecture independent of the West - and U.S. banks - at an inflection point for markets as U.S. President Donald Trump spurns his own trading partners and drives a scramble to reroute trade. "The United States weaponizing

tariffs has cast doubt over U.S. asset safety, undercut trust in the dollar, and shaken the greenback's global status," E. Yongjian, vice general manager of Bank of Communications' research department told a seminar on yuan internationalization. "That, in turn, has made yuan assets more attractive, and will help broaden cross-border use of the Chinese currency." China's central bank announced steps this month to beef up cross-border financial services in Shanghai and encouraged companies to prioritize yuan usage in payment and settlement. The PBOC also pledged to strengthen its homegrown cross-border yuan payment system CIPS, and push forward with the application of blockchain - the technology on which digital yuan is based. Chinese companies which are stepping up overseas investment are demanding better financial systems as "unilateralism, protectionism ... and higher tariffs impact the global supply chain," PBOC vice governor Lu Lei told a press conference this month. (Reuters)

- **China holds off on new stimulus, shows composure in US trade war** - China has advanced this year's stimulus plans but is holding off on fresh measures as it tries to maintain composure, betting on Washington blinking first in a protracted trade war. The Communist Party's elite decision-making body, the Politburo, pledged on Friday to support firms and workers most affected by triple-digit U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods, but stopped short of announcing additional deficit spending. The decision to withhold additional stimulus disappointed investors, leading to a 3% slump in Chinese real estate stocks (.CSI000952), opens new tab on Monday, despite official efforts to assuage market concerns over a sharp downturn in growth. Beijing is already in a higher stimulus gear, which it can maintain over the coming months to mitigate the pain of losing, at least temporarily, its biggest customer, analysts and policy advisers said. The lack of new stimulus does not point to a capitulation on its high growth ambitions this year - matching last year's growth of around 5% - but a strategy to remain flexible amid the tariff war with President Donald Trump's administration. "It's simply too early for Beijing to go all-in," said Larry Hu, chief China economist at Macquarie. "It's much easier for Trump to walk back his tariff threat than it is for Beijing to walk back its stimulus announcement. Moreover, policymakers could announce new stimulus at any time." China has already brought forward the implementation of its 2025 stimulus plans and that will continue, Hu said. In January-March, government spending rose 4.2% from a year earlier, while revenue fell 1.1%, resulting in a fiscal deficit of 1.26tn yuan (\$173bn), the highest first-quarter reading on record, government data showed. (Reuters)

Regional

- **China's CICC eyes Middle East, Southeast Asia in global push** - China International Capital Corp, one of the nation's largest brokerages, is seeking to tap growing demand for cross-border financial services in the Gulf and Southeast Asia as the firm pushes its global expansion. Beijing-based CICC is gearing up to open a new branch in Dubai to target sovereign wealth funds and conglomerates in the Gulf region, according to Wang Hanfeng, deputy president for CICC International. It's also exploring more Southeast Asian markets, after having opened a representative office in Vietnam last year and a Singapore unit in 2008. "If we don't connect with the world and just focus our efforts on the domestic market, our role and influence will wane," Wang said in e-mailed remarks to Bloomberg News. "We aim to form a bridge for Chinese firms to go abroad and overseas firms to invest in China." The company will now also priorities deploying resources to areas including Latin America, central Asia as well as Japan and South Korea to better support China's Belt and Road Initiative, Wang said. Since the inception of the initiative in 2013, China has managed to extend its global influence through the development program that mainly funds infrastructure for member countries. Beijing is now actively seeking closer ties with trade partners in regions including Southeast Asia as it braces for growing tensions with President Donald Trump's US administration. The overseas expansion of Chinese brokerages also dovetails with the nation's strategy for its firms to "go global" and a drive to cultivate two to three top-class Chinese in-vestment banks by 2035. The push comes amid increasing tension with US over tariffs and as China's economy has struggled to regain traction. The firm's profit dropped 7.5% in 2024 from a year earlier as brokerage commissions and investment banking revenue slid. Underwriting and sponsoring fees from

equity financing dropped almost 37% as initial public offerings and follow-on share sales in China plummeted. CICC aims to participate in the energy transition and infrastructure construction drive in Gulf region by providing structured financing and services, according to Wang. It will cater to increasing demand from both Chinese firms and their counterparts in that region for cross-border investment, share offerings, as well as mergers and acquisitions, he said. There's "great synergy" between the two sides in areas including green energy, he said. The firm expects stronger ties and more cooperation between companies in China and Southeast Asia as the latter seeks to upgrade the new energy, high technology and consumption sectors. CICC can play to its strength by facilitating two-way financing and investment services, said Wang. Peer CGS International, a unit of China Galaxy Securities Co, is also looking to help boost cross-border investments by Chinese and South-east Asian firms amid optimism over stronger ties between the two sides given the US tariffs, CEO Carol Fong told Bloomberg Television in early April. CICC will add more headcount in both Gulf region and Southeast Asia to aid its local expansion, Wang said, without disclosing specific targets. (Gulf Times)

- Saudi Arabia's aid tops \$134bn across 172 countries** - Supervisor General of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief) Dr. Abdullah Al-Rabeeh said that Saudi Arabia has provided over \$134bn in aid to 172 countries during the period between 1996 and 2025. Addressing a meeting with members of the UK House of Lords in the United Kingdom's parliament in London on Monday, he noted that KSrelief was established on May 13, 2015 as a generous initiative by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman to serve as a specialized entity delivering diverse humanitarian and relief programs. "The KSrelief has implemented 3,400 projects in 107 countries, with a total value of some \$8bn, covering vital sectors such as food security, education, health, protection, nutrition, water and sanitation, and other essential areas to address humanitarian needs worldwide," he said. Dr. Al-Rabeeh pointed out that the center has carried out 1,089 projects specifically dedicated to women worldwide, with a total value exceeding \$868mn, and 1,029 projects focused on children, worth over \$1bn, benefiting more than 219mn children. The KSrelief chief highlighted that the Saudi Conjoined Twins Program, a globally unique initiative that receives conjoined and parasitic twins from around the world and covers all expenses related to their separation surgeries, medical care, and post-operative rehabilitation. Since its inception in 1990, the program has evaluated 149 cases from 27 countries and successfully performed 62 separation surgeries. Regarding refugees in the Kingdom, Dr. Al-Rabeeh noted that Saudi Arabia is among the leading host countries, referring to refugees as "visitors," with a total of 1,095,029 individuals from Yemen, Syria, and Myanmar. The Kingdom grants them the right to work and provides free healthcare and education in public schools. Members of the House of Lords praised Saudi Arabia's humanitarian and relief efforts through KSrelief, recognizing its role in supporting global humanitarian initiative and alleviating the suffering of vulnerable and affected populations worldwide. (Zawya)
- Saudi: Monsha'at signs deal with Azerbaijan's Small, Medium Business Development Agency** - The Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority (Monsha'at) today signed a memorandum of understanding with Azerbaijan's Small and Medium Business Development Agency (KOBIA), aiming to boost economic, trade, and investment cooperation in the field of SMEs and to help improve their competitiveness in global markets. Minister of Investment Khalid Al-Falih, Monsha'at Governor Sami bin Ibrahim Al-Hussaini, and KOBIA Chairman Orkhan Mammadov attended the signing ceremony, organized in conjunction with the Saudi-Azerbaijani Committee meetings. The memorandum seeks to exchange knowledge and expertise between the two sides to enhance institutional infrastructure and develop SMEs. It also aims to organize business visits to strengthen trade relations among SMEs in the two countries by providing information on relevant business opportunities and supporting the organization of training and educational programs related to the sector and associated institutions. (Zawya)
- UAE: Ministry of Finance, FTA launch initiative to waive late registration penalties** - The Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Federal Tax Authority (FTA) have announced the issuance of a Cabinet Decision launching an initiative to waive administrative penalties for corporate taxpayers and

certain exempt persons who failed to submit their tax registration applications with the FTA within the required time-frame. To qualify, eligible parties must file their tax return or annual statements within a period not exceeding seven (7) months from the end of their first tax period, as stipulated under the Corporate Tax Law. The Cabinet's decision reflects the proactive approach of the Ministry of Finance and the Federal Tax Authority to enhance tax compliance. It aims to encourage registrants to file tax returns or annual statements before the deadline, bolstering early compliance with legal requirements. Additionally, the FTA confirmed that necessary procedures will be implemented to refund administrative fines collected from those who meet the specified criteria. The initiative reaffirms the continued commitment of the Ministry of Finance and the Federal Tax Authority to enhancing the tax compliance environment in the UAE, facilitating procedures, and easing financial burdens on businesses. It aims to enable taxpayers to meet their obligations smoothly and benefit from the exemptions, provided they file their tax returns or annual declarations within the prescribed time-frame. The decision is expected to significantly support the UAE's ongoing effort to ensure better compliance during the first year of corporate tax implementation. It underscores the government's commitment to supporting national businesses by providing incentives that encourage voluntary compliance, reduce administrative and financial burdens associated with tax registration, and further strengthen the UAE's standing across global competitiveness indices. (Zawya)

- Sources: UAE'S ADNOC to supply US LPG to India following China-US tariffs** - Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) will start replacing some of the liquefied petroleum gas it supplies to India with cheaper U.S. cargoes from June, industry sources said, as U.S.-China tariffs rejig global trade flows. The move will enable ADNOC to ship more of its own LPG to China, where buyers are paying higher premiums to replace U.S. supply after Beijing imposed steep tariffs on U.S. goods, and reduce LPG costs for India, the world's No. 2 importer. India sources more than 80% of its LPG imports from the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Kuwait, under annual contracts. Earlier this month, Indian refiners made a rare request to Middle East suppliers to swap some of their term supply with U.S. LPG. Indian refiners asked for U.S. LPG to be delivered at discounts to the Middle Eastern benchmark Saudi Contract Price (CP), sources said. ADNOC, through its trading units, has agreed to supply some U.S. LPG cargoes to India refiners under the annual contracts from June-July, said sources. The U.S.-China war has widened the price gap between the Middle Eastern and U.S. LPG, they said. However, one of the sources said: "It is difficult to replace the entire volumes with U.S. LPG." June Goh, an analyst at Sparta Commodities, said: "Unlike China, India's consumption of LPG is mainly for domestic use and requires a higher percentage of butane in the blend." "Thus India can benefit from the diversion of U.S. LPG cargoes but not the propane cargoes," she added. Indian refiners - Indian Oil Corp (IOC.NS), Bharat Petroleum Corp (BPCL.NS), and Hindustan Petroleum Corp (HPL.NS), - and ADNOC did not respond to Reuters' requests for comment. India imported about 60% of its overall LPG consumption at 29.66mn metric tons in 2023/24, according to government data. (Reuters)
- IMF lowers Oman's GDP growth forecast to 2.3% for 2025** - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised down its real GDP growth forecasts for the GCC countries, including Oman, as well as for the wider Middle East and North Africa region. The downward revision largely reflects the indirect and modest impact of ongoing global trade tensions and a subdued outlook for oil prices. In its April World Economic Outlook, the IMF lowered Oman's real GDP growth forecast for 2025 by 80 basis points to 2.3%, down from 3.1% projected in October last year. The sultanate's growth forecast for 2026 was also cut by 80 basis points, to 3.6% from previous forecast of 4.4%. In its Article IV Consultation Staff Report, published in January, the IMF noted that Oman's economic outlook remains 'favorable' due to robust oil revenues and ongoing structural reforms. The Fund projected that non-oil sectors will drive Oman's overall growth in the medium term, supported by significant private sector investment. Across the GCC, the IMF downgraded Saudi Arabia's 2025 GDP growth forecast by 160 basis points to 3.0%, and by 70 basis points for 2026 to 3.7%. Kuwait's 2025 forecast was reduced by 140 basis points to 1.9%. The UAE is now expected to grow by 4.0% in 2025, a

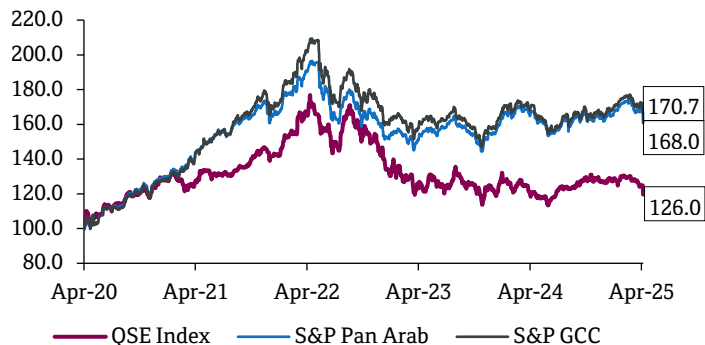
reduction of 110 basis points. Bahrain's projected growth stands at 2.8%, following a 40 basis point downgrade. In contrast, Qatar's GDP forecast for 2025 was revised upwards by 50 basis points to 2.4%. Looking ahead to 2026, Qatar is expected to be the fastest-growing economy in the GCC, with a growth rate of 5.6%, despite a 20 basis point downward revision. The UAE follows with projected growth of 5.0%, while Saudi Arabia is forecast to expand by 3.7%. Kuwait and Bahrain were the only GCC countries to receive upward revisions for 2026, by 60 and 10 basis points respectively, bringing their forecasts to 3.1% and 3.0%. For the MENA region as a whole, the IMF revised down its growth projections by 90 basis points for 2025 to 2.6%, and by 50 basis points for 2026 to 3.4%. Speaking at a press briefing last week, Jihad Azour, Director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department, said, "In the MENA region, conflicts continue to weigh on growth in some oil-importing countries, while extended OPEC+ voluntary production cuts are dampening activity in oil-exporting economies. For GCC countries, strong non-oil growth and diversification efforts have been largely offset by oil production cuts." He said that regional growth expectations have been revised down compared to the IMF's October 2024 Regional Economic Outlook, due to weaker global growth and the limited but noticeable effects of persistent trade tensions. "Regarding the GCC, the direct impact of the trade shock has been limited. However, the prospect of declining oil prices arises at a time when oil production is increasing only gradually, following the implementation of the December OPEC+ agreement," Azour added. The IMF now anticipates the average price of crude oil to be \$66.94 per barrel in 2025 and \$62.38 in 2026. (Zawya)

- Oman to set up \$565mn solar manufacturing plant** - Oman has taken a major leap toward expanding its renewable energy landscape with the signing of a \$565mn agreement to establish a state-of-the-art solar manufacturing plant in SOHAR Freezone. Announced during the Advantage Oman Forum in Muscat, the landmark project, facilitated by Invest Oman, underscores the Sultanate's commitment to clean energy and industrial diversification under Oman Vision 2040. The agreement was signed between JA Solar Energy — one of the world's top four manufacturers and suppliers of high-efficiency solar cells and modules — and key Omani entities including Invest Oman, SOHAR Port and Freezone, and Majis Industrial Services. With operations scheduled to commence in 2025, the facility will cover 32.8 hectares in the second phase of the SOHAR Freezone. It will boast an annual production capacity of 6 gigawatts of solar cells and 3 gigawatts of solar modules, serving major markets across Europe, the United States, and the region. The project represents a coordinated effort between multiple government bodies, including the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ), the Authority for Public Services Regulation, Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC), NAMA Supply, and Majis Industrial Services, with Invest Oman playing a central enabling role. Ibtisam Al Farooji, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion for Investment Promotion, said: "The signing of these landmark agreements underscores Oman's commitment to fostering a competitive and sustainable investment environment. "This project aligns with Oman Vision 2040 by enhancing renewable energy capabilities, creating economic value, and driving innovation in clean energy technologies. "Through Invest Oman's collaborative efforts, the Sultanate continues to position itself as a global hub for strategic, sustainable investments." She added, "As the government's dedicated gateway for investment promotion, Invest Oman played a pivotal role in realizing this project. The plant's advanced technology and large-scale production will significantly boost the country's renewable energy potential and contribute to global sustainability efforts." Mohammed Al Shizawi, Acting CEO of SOHAR Freezone, highlighted the project's broader significance. He said: "The expansion of SOHAR Freezone highlights our strong appeal to investors and our key role in driving economic growth. With its strategic advantages and advanced infrastructure, the freezone is the perfect foundation for innovative projects like this one. By localizing solar panel production, we reduce our carbon footprint and set a new sustainability benchmark, while strengthening the renewable energy cluster and downstream industries." Victor Yang, President of JA Solar's Investment and Financing Center, said the plant would strengthen the regional and global solar supply chain. "Our facility marks a significant advancement in the solar PV

supply chain. The strategic location within SOHAR Freezone offers essential logistics and positions us in a rapidly growing renewable energy hub. By utilizing cutting-edge technologies, we aim to produce high-quality, affordable solar cells and panels that enhance accessibility and attract global investment, while expanding our presence in key markets," he said. Fan Jingchao, General Manager of JA Solar OM (FZC) SPC, said: "This facility integrates all key components from polysilicon to modules, and will accelerate the clean energy transition. Our investment strengthens Oman's renewable infrastructure and contributes meaningfully to global sustainability goals." With Phase 1 of SOHAR Freezone already 85% leased, Phase 2 — where the new facility will be located — is actively expanding to meet rising demand across its 675 hectares of land. The establishment of this manufacturing plant further solidifies SOHAR Freezone's growing reputation as a strategic hub for sustainable industrial development and global trade. The solar manufacturing project is poised to play a transformative role in advancing Oman's clean energy transition, driving industrial diversification, and reinforcing the Sultanate's emergence as a regional leader in renewable technologies. (Zawya)

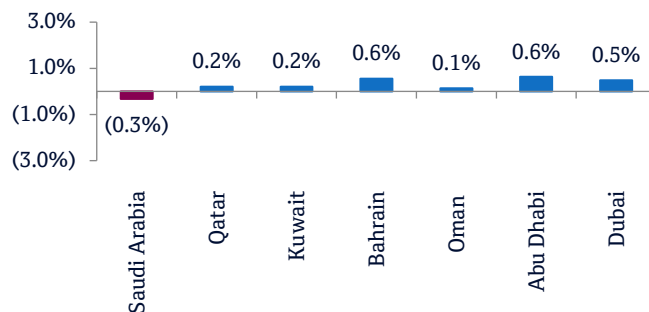
- GCC Accreditation Centre opens first branch in Oman** - The Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion officially launched the first regional branch of the GCC Accreditation Centre (GAC) in Muscat on Sunday, April 27, 2025. The launch was followed by the unveiling of the logo of the Omani Accreditation Centre. The ceremony, which took place at the JW Marriott Hotel, was presided over by Jasem Mohamed al Budaiwi, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and attended by Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, and senior public and private sector officials. This move is consistent with Oman Vision 2040 and will further enhance the Sultanate's accreditation and quality systems. The new office will provide internationally recognized accreditation services, promote product and service conformity, and enhance regional trade integration. Eng Mut'ib bin Saeed al Mizani, Director General of the GCC Accreditation Center, said: "In a move which reinforces its steadfast commitment towards enhancing Gulf cooperation, the Sultanate of Oman has formally inaugurated a branch of the Gulf Accreditation Center in Muscat. The establishment of this center is a testament to Oman's central contribution and strong support for common Gulf endeavors." Eng Al Mizani added, "The center will oversee the issuance of accreditation certificates to all types of goods to ensure they meet regional and international standards. The drive is expected to establish a strong foundation to increase the quality and competitiveness of Omani products and create a proper environment for the goods to enter regional and international markets." He added. Emad bin Khamis al Shukaili, Director General for Standards and Metrology of Oman's Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion, commented: "We are celebrating today the official inauguration of the first branch of the Gulf Accreditation Center at the regional level of GCC countries in the Sultanate of Oman. This parallels the launching of our temporary program, supplementing the Tenth Five-Year Plan by introducing the Omani Accreditation Center." "The importance of operating both the Gulf and Omani centers simultaneously is to achieve two primary objectives: First, to provide accreditation services, which have not been available in the Omani market for a very long time; Second, to enable the Omani National Accreditation Center to obtain international acceptance during this period and the future period, God willing," he further noted. The Ministry further initiated the "Omani Competencies Program," which is designed to train a new generation of quality and accreditation professionals, thus furthering the nation's quest for a knowledge-based economy. The ceremony concluded with the signing of a second agreement of cooperation between the Ministry and GAC, paving the way for more accreditation services and eventual international recognition for the Omani Accreditation Centre. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	3,317.41	(0.8)	(0.1)	26.4
Silver/Ounce	32.94	(0.7)	(0.5)	14.0
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	64.25	(2.4)	(3.9)	(13.9)
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	60.42	(2.6)	(4.1)	(15.8)
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	3.17	7.5	17.0	(6.8)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	99.00	3.7	5.9	21.5
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	91.10	(0.5)	11.2	(23.7)
Euro	1.14	(0.3)	0.2	10.0
Yen	142.33	0.2	(0.9)	(9.5)
GBP	1.34	(0.2)	0.7	7.1
CHF	1.21	(0.5)	0.5	10.1
AUD	0.64	(0.7)	(0.2)	3.2
USD Index	99.24	0.2	(0.2)	(8.5)
RUB	110.69	0.0	0.0	58.9
BRL	0.17	(1.0)	0.5	(1.4)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,647.21	0.5	0.8	(1.6)
DJ Industrial	40,527.62	0.7	1.0	(4.7)
S&P 500	5,560.83	0.6	0.6	(5.5)
NASDAQ 100	17,461.32	0.5	0.5	(9.6)
STOXX 600	525.09	0.3	1.2	14.0
DAX	22,425.83	0.6	1.1	23.6
FTSE 100	8,463.46	0.5	1.2	10.9
CAC 40	7,555.87	(0.3)	0.6	12.8
Nikkei	35,839.99	-	1.4	(0.8)
MSCI EM	1,105.99	0.3	0.8	2.8
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,286.66	0.2	(0.0)	(1.5)
HANG SENG	22,008.11	0.1	0.1	9.8
BSE SENSEX	80,288.38	0.1	1.6	3.3
Bovespa	135,092.99	0.8	0.9	23.1
RTS	1,151.93	(0.0)	0.0	6.3

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

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