

Daily Brief

Market View, News in Brief: Corporate and Economy

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Market View *Window-Dressing Likely to Lift Banks and Telcos*

Blue chips were traded moderately higher on Thursday, supported by mild window-dressing interest as the broader market staged consolidation. The FBM KLCI added 3.19 points to close at 1,457.41, off an opening low of 1,453.06 and high of 1,459.1, as gainers led losers 486 to 404 on robust trade totalling 4.23bn shares worth RM2.39bn.

Support at 1,450/1,430; Resistance at 1,470/1,500

While the broader market should extend range bound trade, heavyweight blue chips, especially banks and telcos, should highlight with window-dressing seen to pick up momentum on the last trading day of the year. On the index, it will need to hold above the 1,450 immediate support level to prevent further dip toward better supports at 1,440 and 1,430, while 1,400/1,390 should act as stronger support. A convincing breakout above 1,470 will encourage further gain towards the 1,490/1,500 level, where it may end the year as window-dressing activity returns.

Bargain Maybank & RHB Bank

Maybank needs to overcome the 138.2%FP (RM9.12) to fuel further upside momentum and aim for the 150%FP (RM9.32) and 161.8%FP (RM9.51) going forward, while the 200-day ma (RM8.65) provide key uptrend support. On RHB Bank, the share price needs to rebound above the 100-day ma (RM5.53) to enhance upside potential towards the 123.6%FP (RM5.75) and 138.2%FP (RM5.90) ahead, with key retracement support from the 76.4%FR (RM5.27).

China, Hong Kong Markets Led Gains in Asia

China and Hong Kong markets led a rally in Asia stocks on Thursday, while Australian shares closed near two-year highs. China's CSI 300 index jumped 2.34% to close at 3,414.54, extending gains to the second day. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index climbed 2.5%, also rising for the second day. Hong Kong is still the worst-performing large Asia-Pacific market in 2023, down by some 14%. Markets including Australia and Hong Kong resumed trading Wednesday after a Christmas break, both ending higher, while a rebound in online gaming stocks buoyed China stocks.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 index closed 0.70% higher at 7,614.30, at its highest level since late April 2022. The index is set to end the year higher at 7.7%. Japan's Nikkei 225 ended down 0.42% at 33,539.62, after closing more than 1% higher in the previous session. The broader Topix index closed down 0.14% at 2,362.02, cooling off after four straight sessions of gains. Retail sales data from Japan showed a 5.3% growth in November, higher than a Reuters poll forecast of 5%. South Korea's Kospi was 1.60% higher closing at 2,655.28, building on gains from the previous session.

Wall Street Held Ground on Rate Cut Hope Next Year

US stocks ended slightly higher overnight on hopes for the Federal Reserve's imminent pivot move toward interest rate cuts from next year. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.14%, while the Nasdaq Composite and the S&P 500 were little changed. Investors have ramped up bets on rapid-fire rate cuts next year from the Federal Reserve. The rapid decline in inflation is likely to lead the Fed to cut early and fast to reset the policy rate from a level that will likely be seen as far offside, according to Goldman Sachs, which expects three consecutive 25-bp cuts in March, May, and June, followed by one cut per quarter until the funds rate reaches 3.25-3.5% in 2025 Q3. Their forecast implies 5 cuts in 2024 and 3 more cuts in 2025. The number of Americans filing initial claims for unemployment benefits rose last week, according to data released on Thursday, indicating the labour market continues to cool in the year's fourth quarter.

With just one trading day left in 2023, all major averages are on pace to wrap up the year with gains. The blue-chip Dow and the S&P are poised to finish higher by nearly 13.8% and 24.6%, respectively. Meanwhile, the technology-heavy Nasdaq is on track for its best year since 2003, climbing 44.2%. That outperformance has been driven by the artificial intelligence craze and a rebound among mega-cap tech names after 2022's carnage. The three major indexes are also slated to notch their ninth straight winning weeks. That underscores the market's late 2023 rally, rebounding off a negative third quarter. The S&P is up 11.6% for the quarter and headed for its best quarterly performance in three years. Stocks are now in the middle of a period dubbed the "Santa Claus rally," which refers to the last five trading days of an ending year and the first two of a new one.

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News In Brief *Corporate*

Malayan Banking Bhd is offering flood relief assistance to ease the financial burden faced by individuals, small and medium enterprises, and other non-retail Maybank customers affected by the floods. The list of assistance includes deferment of financing/loan repayment, a reduction in monthly instalments, or an extension of repayment tenure. (*Bernama*)

Nestle (Malaysia) Bhd is collaborating with Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) volunteers to distribute 4,000 essential food aid boxes in flood-affected regions. Pre-packed food relief packets are being distributed by 150 Nestlé Cares and MRCS volunteers to affected families and individuals, including those taking refuge at temporary relocation centres in the east coast states. (*New Straits Times*)

Equipment and engineering parts provider **UMS Holdings Bhd (Not Rated)** has disposed of its entire 45.1% stake in oil and gas equipment supplier MKS Sdn Bhd to its major shareholder NGT Holdings Sdn Bhd for RM6.1mn in a related party transaction. (*Bursa Malaysia/The Edge*)

Datuk Seri Liew Kok Leong has stepped down as the executive chairman of **ARB Bhd (Not Rated)**, less than three months after being redesignated to the position. Liew cited pursuing other interests as the reason for his resignation. (*Bursa Malaysia/The Edge*)

Bursa Malaysia has announced the transfer of the securities of **Teladan Group Bhd (Not Rated)** from the ACE Market to the property sector of the Main Market from Jan 2, 2024. The short names and stock numbers remain unchanged. (*Bursa Malaysia/The Star*)

Alliance Bank Malaysia Bhd has offered a flood relief assistance programme to ease the financial burdens faced by customers and businesses impacted by the recent floods in several states nationwide. This would include options of a loan moratorium of up to 6 months, loan repayment modifications, and waivers of fees and charges for all conventional loans and Islamic financing facilities. (*Bernama*)

Master Tec Group Bhd (Not Rated) has set its initial public offering (IPO) price at 39.0sen/share. The wire and cable manufacturer intends to raise RM61.6mn from its IPO. The proceeds will be mainly used for construction of new manufacturing plant, purchase of new machinery and equipment, working capital, and listing expenses. (*Bursa Malaysia/New Straits Times*)

Metal fabricator **Wentel Engineering Holdings Bhd (Not Rated)**, which is eyeing to list on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia, has entered into an underwriting agreement with TA Securities Holdings Bhd to underwrite a total of 57.5mn new shares. (*The Edge*)

Lim Seong Hai Capital Bhd (Not Rated), which is seeking a transfer from the LEAP Market to the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia, has obtained undertaking letters from its minority shareholders to waive their entitlement to an exit offer. (*Bursa Malaysia/The Edge*)

Kim Loong Resources Bhd's net profit rose 30.6% YoY to RM48.0mn for 3QFY24, from RM36.7mn a year ago, driven by increased production of fresh fruit bunches and higher sales of crude palm oil. Meanwhile, quarterly revenue increased by 11.5% YoY to RM448.7mn from RM402.4mn a year ago. For 9MFY24, the group's net profit dropped 2.0% YoY to RM122.8mn from RM125.6mn a year ago, while revenue fell 21.4% YoY to RM1.2bn from RM1.5bn. The group declared a special dividend of 3.0sen/share. (*Bursa Malaysia/The Edge*)

Analabs Resources Bhd's (Not Rated) net profit doubled to RM13.0mn for 2QFY24, from RM5.5mn a year ago, mainly thanks to improved manufacturing business and better cost control. Meanwhile, quarterly revenue increased 25.5% YoY to RM44.9mn from RM35.8mn a year ago. For 1HFY24, the group's net profit surged 146.0% YoY to RM17.0mn from RM6.9mn a year ago, while revenue increased 32.4% YoY to RM83.2mn from RM62.8mn. The group declared an interim dividend of 2.1 sen/share. *(Bursa Malaysia/The Edge)*

Crescendo Corporation Bhd (Not Rated) saw its net profit for 3QFY24 rose by 270.0% YoY to RM18.0mn, compared with RM4.9mn a year earlier, underpinned by higher properties sales compounded with high-margin industrial land sale. Its quarterly revenue surged by 98.6% YoY to RM101.8mn from RM51.3mn a year earlier. For 9MFY24, the group's net profit climbed by 25.9% YoY to RM35.5mn from RM28.2mn a year ago, while revenue increased by 25.4% YoY to RM221.2mn from RM176.4mn. *(Bursa Malaysia/The Edge)*

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News In Brief *Economy*

Malaysia **Malaysia's export prices rise 2% while import prices dip in November — DOSM**
Malaysia's export prices rose by 2% to 149.3 points in November, up from 146.4 points in the previous month, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). Conversely, import prices fell by 0.8% from 131.3 points down to 130.2 points. Concurrently, the country's terms of trade experienced a month-on-month increase of 2.9%, reaching 114.7 points in November 2023, as reported in External Trade Indices. Datuk Seri Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia, said the nation's export unit in November was propelled by the growth in indexes for mineral fuels (+11%), inedible crude materials (+1.1%), and food (+0.5%). However, the export volume index fell by 5.1%, due to declines in the indices for machinery & transport equipment (-7.4%), mineral fuels (-5.1%), and miscellaneous manufactured articles (-5%). Despite this drop, the seasonally adjusted export volume index saw a marginal 0.05% rise, maintaining 155.8 points. Compared to the previous year, the unit value index increased by 0.4% while the volume index decreased by 6.2%.

In contrast, the import unit value index dropped by 0.8% in November 2023 owing to decreases in the indexes of mineral fuels (-2.9%), machinery & transport equipment (-0.9%), and chemicals (-0.2%). Similarly, the import volume index declined by 2.3% due to contractions in the indexes for mineral fuels (-15.2%), inedible crude materials (-7.2%), and food (-3.2%). Consequently, the seasonally adjusted import volume index also fell by 3.8% from 197 points to 189.4 points. Year-on-year, the import unit value index decreased by 2.2% while the volume index saw a rise of 4.2%. Additionally, Malaysia's terms of trade for November 2023 experienced a month-on-month expansion of 2.9% to reach 114.7 points. (The Edge, DOSM)

Malaysia's FDI grows by RM14.9 bil in 3Q with the help of CPTPP — Tengku Zafrul

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) has helped to boost foreign direct investment (FDI) into the country, with Malaysia's cumulative FDI rising by RM14.9bn to reach RM914.9bn at the end of the third quarter (3Q) of 2023. Investment, Trade And Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz said FDI from Japan increased by RM4bn while that from Australia rose by RM1bn in comparison with 2022. Japan and Australia are both members of the CPTPP. In a statement on Thursday, the minister said the largest recipient of the overall FDI is the services sector (50%), followed by manufacturing (42%). "Based on data collated by the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), 181 new projects valued at US\$2.94bn, with almost 11,000 potential employment opportunities, were recorded from CPTPP countries between January and September 2023," he shared. In terms of trade facilitation, Tengku Zafrul said, the CPTPP has enabled Malaysian exporters and producers to enjoy preferential tariff treatment via the CPTPP certificate of origin (CO), whose utilisation reached 4,482 COs valued at about RM1.58bn, for the period of Nov 29, 2022 to Oct 31, 2023. The top export destination is Japan, followed by Mexico, Canada and Peru, he noted. (The Edge, Bernama)

Asia **Bank of Japan's Ueda prepares ground for rate hike with salvo of comments**
Bank of Japan (BOJ) governor Kazuo Ueda continued to prepare the ground for the nation's first interest rate increase since 2007, with another round of comments that further build the case for a move in the spring, while not ruling out the less probable option of a January hike. "It's possible to make some decisions even if the bank doesn't have the full results of spring wage negotiations from small- and middle-sized businesses," the governor said in an interview with public broadcaster NHK released on Wednesday. The latest comments from the governor, in a busy week of signalling from the central bank, suggest the BOJ may be less

likely to wait until July to raise rates when more complete pay deal data is compiled by Rengo, the nation's largest union federation.

Ueda said the chances of having enough information to support a policy change by the central bank's January meeting are not so high, but he refused to rule out that possibility. The governor's remarks are likely to support the view among economists that the central bank will move in April, after it has assessed early annual pay deal figures due in March, and confirmed that the economy is expanding again, with gross domestic product data scheduled for release in February. (Reuters)

Singapore readies sales tax hike as demographic crunch looms

Singapore households are bracing for a sales tax hike that takes effect in the new year as the government shores up coffers ahead of an expected surge in social spending in the rapidly ageing city-state in the years ahead. The goods and services tax, which is levied on everything from groceries to diamond rings, will be increased by one percentage point to 9% on Monday, the second phase of a two-stage rate hike. This year the sales tax was raised to 8% from the previous 7%, which had been unchanged for 15 years. The hikes comes on top of already rising living costs, prompting opposition lawmakers to call for a delay in the rise. Core inflation in Singapore has moderated to 3.2% in November from a peak of 5.5% in January and February, but remains stubborn with the central bank expecting it to average 2.5%–3.5% in 2024.

The government has said the tax increment was necessary to bolster state finances as it prepares for a surge in Singapore's ageing population and rising healthcare costs. It is estimated that a quarter of the population will be 65 and older by 2030. In August, Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong wrote in a parliamentary response that "deferring the GST increase will only store up more problems for the future, leaving us with less resources to take care of our growing fiscal needs". The government has handed out fiscal relief to households in an "assurance package" worth more than S\$10 billion (RM35.05 billion), including S\$200 to S\$800 paid out to all adult Singaporeans this month. (Reuters)

PBOC pledges to stimulate consumer prices amid deflation fears

China vowed to step up existing monetary policy and stimulate consumer prices, which last month continued their slide, falling at the steepest pace in three years. The People's Bank of China (PBOC) vowed to implement a prudent monetary policy in targeted and effective manner, and reaffirmed its pledge to push consumer prices higher, according to a PBOC statement on Thursday. The bank concluded its quarterly monetary policy committee meeting on Wednesday. China's November consumer prices fell 0.5% from a year earlier, and producer costs dropped 3%, more than expected and deeper into negative territory, underscoring the challenges facing the economic recovery. The central bank also pledged to guide reasonable growth of credit, increase structural support for tech, infrastructure and other sectors, and to push government investment to stimulate private investment. (Reuters)

United States U.S. Weekly Jobless Claims Rise More Than Expected

First-time claims for U.S. unemployment benefits rose by more than expected in the week ended December 23rd, according to a report released by the Labour Department on Thursday. The report said initial jobless claims climbed to 218,000, an increase of 12,000 from the previous week's revised level of 206,000. Economists had expected jobless claims to inch up to 210,000 from the 205,000 originally reported for the previous week. Meanwhile, the Labour Department said the less volatile four-week moving average edged down to 212,000, a decrease of 250 from the previous week's revised average of 212,250. The report also said continuing claims, a reading on the number of people receiving ongoing unemployment assistance, rose by 14,000 to 1.875mn in the week ended December 16th.

The four-week moving average of continuing claims still dipped to 1,864,500, a decrease of 12,500 from the previous week's revised average of 1,877,000. Next Friday, the Labor Department is scheduled to release its more closely watched report on the employment situation in the month of December. (RTT)

Pending home sales recorded no change in November

Pending home sales in November were identical to those in October, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR). The Northeast, Midwest and West posted monthly gains in transactions while the South recorded a loss. All four U.S. regions registered year-over-year declines in transactions. The Pending Home Sales Index (PHSI) – a forward-looking indicator of home sales based on contract signings – stayed at 71.6 in November. Year over year, pending transactions were down 5.2%. An index of 100 is equal to the level of contract activity in 2001. “Although declining mortgage rates did not induce more homebuyers to submit formal contracts in November, it has sparked a surge in interest, as evidenced by a higher number of lockbox openings,” said Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist. (NAR)

Eurozone and United Kingdom

ECB's Holzmann says rate cuts in 2024 aren't guaranteed

One of the European Central Bank's (ECB) most hawkish Governing Council members said it's too early to talk about lowering borrowing costs, and such a move in 2024 is anything but certain. “Even if the ECB is past an unprecedented series of 10 consecutive rate increases, there is also for the year 2024 no guarantee of rate reductions,” Robert Holzmann said on Thursday. “Monetary policy normalisation is already showing its impact on slowing inflation, but it would still be premature to think about rate cuts.” Earlier this month, the ECB held rates steady for a second time, though president Christine Lagarde signalled that market bets on cuts as soon as March may be premature. That's partly because consumer-price growth will see an uptick again in coming months, due to base effects. Euro-area inflation to probably reach the ECB's 2% target in the next two years, though path there will be “challenging”, said Holzmann, who heads Austria's central bank. (Reuters)

UK economy set to escape hard landing in boost for Rishi Sunak

Britain's economy probably will avoid a recession in 2024 and strengthen in the second half of the year as consumers benefit from falling inflation and the easing of a lengthy cost-of-living crisis. In aggregate, the 52 economists surveyed by Bloomberg believe the Treasury and the Bank of England (BOE) will engineer a soft landing for the economy next year, with growth of 0.3% and a recession averted. If the economy is to decide the outcome of the election, which must be called by January 2025, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's best chance is to wait until the summer, judging by forecasts for the year ahead. While those readings signal Britain will join Germany at the bottom of the Group of Seven (G7) growth table, next year also is expected to deliver an advance in real incomes for consumers after the worst inflation shock in three decades. (Reuters)

SNAPSHOT OF STOCKS UNDER COVERAGE

No.	Company	Share Price (RM)	Target Price (RM)	% upside	Recom	Market Cap. (RMm)	Beta	EPS (sen)		PER (X)		Div Yield (%)		52weeks		52weeks		% Chg YTD	
								FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	High Price	% Chg	Low Price	% Chg		
		28-Dec-23																	
AUTOMOTIVE																			
1	BAUTO	2.39	2.33	-2.5%	Sell	2,791	0.36	26.2	28.5	9.1	8.4	9.2	7.2	2.55	-6.3	1.91	25.0	16.2	
2	MBMR	4.26	4.13	-3.1%	Sell	1,665	0.69	66.9	58.9	6.4	7.2	9.4	6.3	4.59	-7.2	2.95	44.4	44.4	
3	SIME	2.37	2.50	5.5%	Hold	16,153	0.86	16.9	17.0	14.0	14.0	5.5	5.0	2.47	-4.0	1.98	19.7	3.0	
4	UMW	4.99	5.00	0.2%	Accept Offer	5,830	0.83	47.3	34.3	10.5	14.6	2.4	1.8	5.00	-0.2	3.31	50.8	43.8	
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES																			
5	ABMB	3.39	3.80	12.1%	Buy	5,248	0.85	43.8	43.5	7.7	7.8	6.5	5.9	3.75	-9.6	3.22	5.3	-7.6	
6	AFFIN	2.08	2.15	3.4%	Hold	4,881	1.06	20.5	21.9	10.1	9.5	3.8	3.8	2.21	-5.9	1.79	16.2	2.5	
7	AMBANK	4.04	4.30	6.4%	Buy	13,364	0.72	52.6	51.5	7.7	7.8	4.5	4.5	4.21	-4.0	3.42	18.1	-2.4	
8	CIMB	5.84	6.60	13.0%	Buy	62,284	1.09	61.1	67.1	9.6	8.7	6.0	6.2	5.99	-2.5	4.80	21.7	0.7	
9	HLBANK	18.82	21.60	14.8%	Buy	40,796	0.69	176.1	189.3	10.7	9.9	3.1	3.3	21.20	-11.2	18.46	2.0	-8.5	
10	MAYBANK	8.91	9.50	6.6%	Hold	107,457	0.73	78.1	83.3	11.4	10.7	6.7	7.0	9.20	-3.2	8.26	7.9	2.4	
11	PBBANK	4.28	4.50	5.1%	Hold	83,078	1.08	35.4	37.4	12.1	11.4	4.0	4.2	4.41	-2.9	3.78	13.2	-0.9	
12	RHBBANK	5.46	5.70	4.4%	Hold	23,403	0.89	68.6	74.4	8.0	7.3	7.3	7.3	5.81	-6.0	5.29	3.2	-5.7	
13	APEX	1.09	1.19	9.2%	Sell	221	0.40	3.7	3.8	29.3	28.6	0.0	0.0	1.51	-27.8	1.04	4.8	-8.4	
14	BURSA	6.92	7.30	5.5%	Buy	5,600	0.86	32.0	32.3	21.6	21.4	4.9	5.2	6.95	-0.4	6.16	12.3	4.1	
15	ELKDESA	1.27	1.37	7.9%	Hold	578	0.31	10.5	8.2	12.1	15.5	5.1	3.7	1.35	-5.9	1.06	19.8	19.8	
BUILDING MATERIALS																			
16	ANNJOO	1.07	1.01	-5.6%	Sell	601	1.38	-15.5	12.6	na	8.5	0.0	3.5	1.54	-30.5	1.00	7.0	-1.8	
17	CHINWEL	1.28	1.41	10.2%	Buy	367	0.49	11.4	13.6	11.3	9.4	4.3	4.0	1.75	-26.9	1.25	2.4	-20.0	
18	CMSB	1.10	1.11	0.9%	Hold	1,182	0.70	10.4	12.4	10.5	8.9	1.8	1.8	1.36	-19.1	0.96	15.2	2.8	
19	CSCSTEL	1.23	1.38	12.2%	Buy	454	0.88	14.9	15.3	8.2	8.0	6.7	6.9	1.32	-6.8	1.10	11.8	5.1	
CONSTRUCTION																			
20	GADANG	0.34	0.28	-16.4%	Sell	244	1.10	-0.4	2.9	na	11.5	0.0	0.9	0.37	-8.2	0.28	19.6	4.7	
21	GAMUDA	4.61	5.19	12.6%	Buy	12,560	0.63	31.0	36.8	14.9	12.5	10.8	2.6	4.77	-3.4	3.70	24.6	22.9	
22	IJM	1.89	2.01	6.3%	Buy	6,627	0.78	9.6	10.3	19.6	18.3	4.2	3.2	1.95	-3.1	1.43	32.2	19.7	
23	INTA	0.26	0.34	30.8%	Buy	140	0.38	3.5	3.4	7.3	7.7	3.8	3.8	0.28	-7.1	0.20	30.0	15.6	
24	KERJAYA	1.53	1.52	-0.7%	Hold	1,929	0.45	11.3	12.6	13.6	12.1	5.2	5.2	1.56	-1.9	1.05	45.7	30.8	
25	SUNCON	1.95	1.73	-11.3%	Sell	2,514	0.81	10.4	12.3	18.8	15.8	4.1	4.1	2.01	-3.0	1.53	27.5	25.0	
26	TRC	0.37	0.42	13.5%	Buy	174	0.63	3.5	4.7	10.7	7.9	3.8	4.1	0.41	-9.8	0.30	25.4	23.3	
27	WCT	0.50	0.55	10.0%	Hold	709	0.89	2.5	4.5	19.8	11.0	2.0	2.0	0.60	-16.0	0.39	28.2	25.0	
CONSUMER																			
<i>Brewery</i>																			
28	CARLSBG	19.30	22.90	18.7%	Buy	5,901	0.71	105.4	104.4	18.3	18.5	4.9	5.1	25.00	-22.8	18.88	2.2	-15.6	
29	HEIM	24.12	29.60	22.7%	Buy	7,287	0.67	126.3	134.8	19.1	17.9	5.0	5.3	30.00	-19.6	21.02	14.7	-4.3	
<i>Retail</i>																			
30	AEON	1.09	1.57	44.0%	Buy	1,530	0.35	8.2	10.6	13.4	10.3	3.7	3.7	1.40	-22.1	1.02	6.9	-20.4	
31	AMWAY	5.75	5.80	0.9%	Hold	945	0.52	71.0	59.8	8.1	9.6	7.4	7.8	5.80	-0.9	4.84	18.8	18.8	
32	BESHOM	0.90	0.80	-11.1%	Sell	270	0.51	6.0	4.0	15.0	22.5	5.6	5.0	1.43	-37.1	0.89	1.1	-36.2	
33	F&N	28.10	30.00	6.8%	Hold	10,306	0.54	132.9	148.1	21.1	19.0	2.7	2.7	28.68	-2.0	21.32	31.8	30.2	
34	FFB	1.35	1.52	12.6%	Buy	2,527	na	3.1	3.2	43.7	42.0	0.0	0.6	1.65	-18.2	0.99	36.4	0.0	
35	FOCUSP	0.72	1.11	55.2%	Buy	330	0.59	7.1	7.4	10.1	9.7	5.0	5.2	1.06	-32.8	0.61	17.1	15.7	
36	ABLEGLOB	1.52	1.55	2.0%	Buy	467	0.60	13.4	14.6	11.4	10.4	3.0	3.3	1.53	-0.7	1.24	22.6	12.6	
37	LHI	0.58	0.67	16.5%	Buy	2,099	0.55	8.9	7.4	6.5	7.7	9.3	3.9	0.74	-21.8	0.47	23.7	16.2	
38	NESTLE	119.00	132.60	11.4%	Sell	27,906	0.47	328.0	333.0	36.3	35.7	2.4	2.7	140.60	-15.4	111.60	6.6	-15.0	
39	PADINI	3.50	4.10	17.1%	Buy	2,303	0.65	34.8	25.6	10.0	13.7	3.3	3.4	4.16	-15.9	3.33	5.2	4.9	
40	POHUAT	1.35	1.40	3.7%	Hold	358	0.64	8.9	16.4	15.1	8.2	5.2	5.9	1.41	-4.3	1.25	8.0	-1.5	
41	QL	5.73	6.70	16.9%	Buy	13,945	0.66	13.9	16.2	41.3	35.4	0.7	0.9	6.09	-5.9	5.23	9.6	4.0	
42	SCIENTX	3.87	3.89	0.5%	Hold	6,003	0.79	29.9	34.5	12.9	11.2	2.6	3.1	3.97	-2.5	3.16	22.5	20.2	
GAMING																			
<i>Casino</i>																			
43	GENTING	4.62	5.30	14.7%	Buy	17,790	0.98	36.1	47.6	12.8	9.7	4.3	4.3	5.12	-9.8	4.01	15.2	3.1	
44	GENM	2.69	2.71	0.7%	Hold	15,246	0.85	9.6	23.1	28.1	11.6	5.6	5.9	2.94	-8.5	2.40	12.1	0.0	
<i>NFO</i>																			
45	SPTOTO	1.49	1.61	8.1%	Hold	2,011	0.54	17.1	15.7	8.7	9.5	6.0	6.0	1.61	-7.3	1.21	23.6	-6.2	
HEALTHCARE																			
<i>Hospitals/ Pharmaceutical</i>																			
46	DPHARMA	1.26	1.47	16.7%	Buy	1,212	1.27	6.6	9.2	19.2	13.7	1.6	2.2	1.68	-25.0	1.11	13.5	-21.7	
47	IHH	6.03	6.30	4.5%	Hold	53,106	0.75	17.4	18.7	34.7	32.2	2.6	1.2	6.17	-2.2	5.53	9.1	-1.4	
48	KPJ	1.45	1.50	3.4%	Hold	6,328	1.04	5.2	5.5	27.9	26.5	2.3	2.4	1.46	-0.7	0.97	49.8	43.8	
49	SCOMNET	1.22	1.46	19.7%	Buy	964	0.76	4.0	5.1	30.3	23.7	1.6	1.7	1.65	-26.1	1.19	2.5	-22.3	
<i>Rubber Gloves</i>																			
50	HARTA	2.74	3.05	11.3%	Buy	9,352	0.73	-6.9	3.6	na	76.1	0.0	0.8	2.86	-4.2	1.41	94.3	61.2	
51	KOSSAN	1.84	2.06	12.0%	Buy	4,695	0.45	2.6	7.4	70.5	24.9	0.0	1.6	1.92	-4.2	1.02	80.4	67.3	
52	SUPERMX	0.95	1.10	15.8%	Buy	2,447	0.86	-5.2	1.9	na	49.5	3.7	0.6	1.07	-11.2	0.74	28.4	9.2	
53	TOPGLOV	0.91	0.80	-12.1%	Sell	7,287	1.28	-6.5	-1.4	na	na	0.0	0.0	1.25	-27.2	0.66	37.9	0.6	
INSURANCE																			
54	ALLIANZ	18.24	19.28	5.7%	Buy	3,246	0.41	405.0	414.8	4.5	4.4	6.7	6.8	19.00	-4.0	13.44	35.7	28.8	
55	TUNEPRO	0.40	0.51	27.5%	Buy	301	0.91	2.8	3.4	14.4	11.8	0.0	3.4	0.47	-14.9	0.30	33.3	27.0	
MEDIA																			
56	ASTRO	0.40	0.36	-8.9%	Sell	2,062	0.71	5.2	3.6	7.6	11.0	7.6	4.1	0.76	-47.7	0.35	12.9	-39.2	
57	MEDIA PRIMA	0.46	0.38	-17.4%	Sell	510	1.06	4.8	1.9	9.6	24.1	4.4	1.5	0.48	-4.2	0.38	22.7	9.5	
58	STAR	0.44	0.36	-17.2%	Sell	315	0.27	0.3	0.4	130.6	111.0	0.2	0.2	0.64	-32.0	0.29	50.0	45.0	

SNAPSHOT OF STOCKS UNDER COVERAGE

No.	Company	Share Price (RM)	Target Price (RM)	% upside	Recom	Market Cap. (RMm)	Beta	EPS (sen)		PER (X)		Div Yield (%)		52weeks		52weeks		% Chg YTD	
								FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	High Price	% Chg	Low Price	% Chg		
		28-Dec-23																	
OIL & GAS																			
59	COASTAL	1.69	1.90	12.4%	Buy	900	0.69	58.3	16.8	2.9	10.0	0.0	0.0	2.62	-35.5	1.56	8.3	-28.7	
60	LCTITAN	1.36	1.05	-22.8%	Sell	3,097	1.12	-39.8	1.8	na	75.3	0.0	0.0	1.61	-15.5	1.10	23.6	-4.2	
61	MHB	0.49	0.53	9.3%	Hold	776	0.82	-24.9	2.1	na	22.7	0.0	0.4	0.77	-37.0	0.44	10.2	-18.5	
62	MISC	7.30	8.00	9.6%	Buy	32,585	0.74	49.7	51.8	14.7	14.1	4.9	4.9	7.61	-4.1	6.94	5.2	-2.7	
63	PANTECH	0.90	1.18	31.1%	Buy	748	1.25	13.7	11.4	6.6	7.9	6.7	6.4	0.93	-3.2	0.71	27.7	25.9	
64	PCHEM	7.21	7.47	3.6%	Hold	57,680	1.25	24.8	46.2	29.1	15.6	1.7	3.2	8.72	-17.3	5.84	23.5	-16.2	
65	VELESTO	0.23	0.33	43.5%	Buy	1,890	0.84	0.7	1.9	31.1	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.29	-19.3	0.14	64.3	53.3	
PLANTATIONS																			
66	FGV	1.37	1.41	2.9%	Sell	4,998	0.55	0.1	4.3	2294.5	31.6	0.0	0.0	1.63	-16.0	1.30	5.4	3.8	
67	IOICORP	3.94	4.27	8.4%	Hold	24,443	1.05	22.1	22.7	17.8	17.3	2.8	3.1	4.22	-6.6	3.65	7.9	-2.7	
68	KLK	21.86	21.50	-1.6%	Sell	23,575	1.19	91.9	113.6	23.8	19.2	0.9	2.6	23.94	-8.7	20.50	6.6	-2.2	
69	KMLOONG	2.01	2.23	10.9%	Buy	1,954	0.97	16.6	16.0	12.1	12.5	7.5	6.5	2.02	-0.5	1.73	16.2	11.0	
70	SIMEPLT	4.49	4.67	4.0%	Hold	31,052	1.49	15.5	23.4	29.0	19.2	2.0	3.1	4.68	-4.1	4.05	10.9	-2.2	
71	TSH	0.98	1.14	16.3%	Buy	1,353	1.47	6.5	7.2	15.0	13.7	2.0	3.1	1.15	-14.8	0.92	7.1	-8.4	
72	UMCCA	4.95	4.53	-8.5%	Sell	1,038	0.57	26.2	21.2	18.9	23.3	2.4	2.0	5.59	-11.4	4.90	1.0	-10.0	
PROPERTY																			
73	GLOMAC	0.35	0.46	31.4%	Buy	269	0.72	4.1	2.0	8.6	17.4	3.6	2.9	0.41	-13.6	0.30	18.6	9.4	
74	IBRACO	0.81	1.02	26.7%	Buy	440	0.82	8.9	10.1	9.1	7.9	3.1	3.7	1.20	-32.9	0.51	57.8	35.3	
75	IOIPG	1.76	2.09	18.8%	Buy	9,691	0.89	11.4	13.5	15.4	13.1	2.8	3.1	1.90	-7.4	1.05	67.6	66.0	
76	MAHSING	0.83	0.95	14.5%	Buy	2,015	0.92	7.8	8.9	10.6	9.4	4.2	4.2	0.92	-9.8	0.56	48.2	46.9	
77	PARAMON	0.94	1.17	25.1%	Buy	582	0.61	10.0	13.1	9.3	7.1	6.4	7.0	1.05	-11.0	0.65	43.6	40.8	
78	SIMEPROP	0.62	0.89	43.5%	Buy	4,217	1.08	5.4	7.0	11.5	8.8	3.2	4.0	0.77	-19.0	0.44	40.9	37.8	
79	SPSETIA	0.80	1.07	33.8%	Buy	3,484	1.10	2.1	9.8	38.8	8.1	0.9	3.8	1.06	-24.5	0.51	56.9	33.3	
80	SUNWAY	2.03	2.40	18.2%	Buy	11,075	0.77	11.3	12.8	17.9	15.9	2.7	3.0	2.10	-3.3	1.52	33.6	25.3	
REIT																			
81	CLMT	0.57	0.63	11.5%	Buy	1,548	0.64	4.1	4.8	13.9	11.8	7.2	8.1	0.61	-7.4	0.49	15.3	5.6	
82	KIPREIT	0.90	1.08	20.0%	Buy	557	0.46	6.5	7.5	13.8	12.0	6.9	7.8	0.92	-2.2	0.88	2.3	-0.6	
83	SUNREIT	1.53	1.75	14.4%	Buy	5,240	0.40	10.3	10.5	14.8	14.6	6.7	6.8	1.66	-7.8	1.44	6.2	4.8	
POWER & UTILITIES																			
84	MALAKOF	0.63	0.75	19.0%	Buy	3,079	0.78	-10.1	5.9	na	10.7	4.0	7.1	0.75	-15.4	0.57	10.5	-3.1	
85	PETDAG	21.92	21.90	-0.1%	Sell	21,777	0.88	99.6	91.1	22.0	24.1	5.4	5.0	23.60	-7.1	20.04	9.4	-4.1	
86	PETGAS	17.48	20.60	17.8%	Buy	34,588	0.75	100.7	102.3	17.3	17.1	4.9	5.0	17.78	-1.7	16.12	8.4	2.1	
87	RANHILL	0.91	0.96	6.1%	Hold	1,167	1.00	3.3	3.7	27.5	24.4	2.2	2.5	0.98	-7.7	0.43	112.9	98.9	
88	TENAGA	10.00	11.00	10.0%	Buy	57,873	0.82	61.9	78.1	16.2	12.8	3.7	4.6	10.20	-2.0	8.82	13.4	3.8	
89	YTLPOWR	2.54	2.60	2.4%	Buy	20,579	0.90	25.3	35.1	10.0	7.2	2.4	3.1	2.59	-1.9	0.71	257.7	255.2	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS																			
90	AXIATA	2.42	2.35	-2.9%	Sell	22,213	1.26	6.2	7.7	38.8	31.3	4.1	4.1	3.22	-24.8	2.16	12.0	-21.7	
91	CDB	4.13	4.60	11.4%	Hold	48,451	1.28	19.7	21.4	21.0	19.3	3.0	3.4	4.60	-10.2	3.83	7.8	3.3	
92	MAXIS	3.86	3.70	-4.1%	Sell	30,232	1.15	16.2	19.3	23.8	20.0	4.1	4.1	4.59	-15.9	3.72	3.8	0.5	
93	TM	5.56	6.65	19.6%	Buy	21,337	0.90	50.8	53.1	11.0	10.5	3.7	3.9	5.58	-0.4	4.74	17.3	3.0	
TECHNOLOGY																			
<i>Semiconductor & Electronics</i>																			
94	CORAZA	0.44	0.60	36.4%	Buy	217	na	-0.4	2.7	na	16.1	0.0	1.6	1.16	-62.1	0.43	2.3	-42.5	
95	ELSOFT	0.53	0.58	10.5%	Hold	364	0.88	1.3	2.4	41.4	21.8	1.2	2.3	0.66	-20.5	0.50	6.1	-7.2	
96	INARI	3.01	3.55	17.9%	Buy	11,279	1.04	8.5	9.2	35.3	32.7	2.7	3.0	3.20	-5.9	2.15	40.0	15.3	
97	MPI	28.10	32.35	15.1%	Buy	5,589	0.94	30.8	80.3	91.1	35.0	1.2	1.0	34.98	-19.7	25.16	11.7	-2.3	
98	REXIT	0.87	0.93	7.5%	Hold	150	0.58	6.4	6.5	13.6	13.3	4.6	5.8	0.96	-9.9	0.73	19.3	18.5	
99	SKPRES	0.81	0.78	-3.1%	Hold	1,258	0.66	9.2	5.7	8.7	14.1	5.6	3.6	1.72	-53.2	0.75	8.1	-50.0	
100	UNISEM	3.32	2.70	-18.7%	Sell	5,355	0.80	4.7	11.2	70.2	29.6	2.4	2.4	3.67	-9.5	2.67	24.3	20.3	
TRANSPORTATION																			
<i>Airlines</i>																			
101	AIRPORT	7.35	7.85	6.8%	Buy	12,264	1.22	29.8	43.7	24.7	16.8	1.1	1.6	7.80	-5.8	6.53	12.6	12.0	
102	CAPITALA	0.84	0.85	1.8%	Sell	3,553	0.74	-0.9	8.5	na	9.8	0.0	0.0	1.12	-25.4	0.61	36.9	33.6	
103	CJCN	0.38	0.50	33.3%	Buy	218	0.86	2.0	3.6	18.3	10.5	1.3	2.4	0.54	-30.6	0.36	4.2	-22.7	
<i>Freight & Tankers</i>																			
104	PTRANS	1.14	1.59	39.5%	Buy	834	0.45	9.0	9.7	12.7	11.8	2.7	3.0	1.38	-17.4	0.99	15.7	-10.9	
105	WPRTS	3.65	4.03	10.4%	Buy	12,447	0.64	21.4	28.3	17.1	12.9	4.3	5.7	3.88	-5.9	3.15	15.9	-3.9	

SNAPSHOT OF FOREIGN STOCKS UNDER COVERAGE

No.	Company	Share Price (\$)	Target Price (\$)	% upside	Recom	Market Cap. (\$m)	Beta	EPS (cent)		PER (X)		Div Yield (%)		52week		52week		% Chg YTD	
								FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	High Price	% Chg	Low Price	% Chg		
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES																			
1	DBS	33.04	37.90	14.7%	Buy	85,217	1.05	403.5	385.9	8.2	8.6	5.6	5.8	6.05	5.6	5.81	35.8	-7.8	
2	OCBC	12.92	13.80	6.8%	Buy	58,067	1.08	157.6	159.9	8.2	8.1	6.2	7.0	5.26	6.2	6.97	13.4	-3.5	
3	UOB	28.38	32.10	13.1%	Buy	47,464	1.12	341.8	363.3	8.3	7.8	4.9	5.1	4.76	4.9	5.11	31.3	-9.4	
PLANTATIONS																			
4	WILMAR	3.51	4.58	30.5%	Buy	21,912	1.01	29.9	37.4	11.7	9.4	2.6	3.4	4.84	2.6	3.42	4.3	-18.2	

BUY : Total return within the next 12 months exceeds required rate of return by 5%-point.

HOLD : Total return within the next 12 months exceeds required rate of return by between 0.5%-point.

SELL : Total return is lower than the required rate of return.

Total Return is defined as expected share price appreciation plus gross dividend over the next 12 months. Gross dividend is excluded from total return if dividend discount model valuation is used to avoid double counting.

Required Rate of Return of 7% is defined as the yield for one-year Malaysian government treasury plus assumed equity risk premium.

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