28 April 2022

RHB**4**

Unisem (M) (UNI MK)

Robust Order Visibility Still; Stay BUY

Technology | Semiconductors

BUV (Maintained)

Target Price (Return):	MYR3.75 (+36%)
Price (Market Cap):	MYR2.76 (USD1,022m)
ESG score:	2.90 (out of 4)
Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD)	5.82m/1.40m

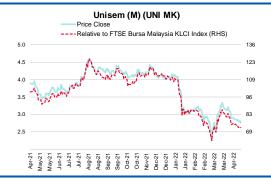
Analyst

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Share Performance (%)

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(32.4)	(17.4)	(8.6)	(33.0)	(28.8)
Relative	(33.6)	(16.3)	(13.2)	(33.2)	(27.5)
52-wk Price low		2.28	8 – 4.58		



Source: Bloomberg

Overall ESG Score: 2.90 (out of 4)

E: GOOD

The group monitors and manage its greenhouse gas emissions. Various key energy consumption reduction initiatives are performed at its sites. In terms of waste management, Unisem has a target of achieving a 50% recycling rate of total scheduled waste generated. All of its sites comply woth local environmental laws on e-waste handling and practices.

S: GOOD

Unisem has a safety and health policy in place to create a safe and conducive work environment for its employees. Health and safety training is provided to enhance employee safety awareness. G: GOOD

Unisem has applied and adopted the majority of the best practices of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance. Nevertheless, we highlight that the CEO and Chairman position are held by the same person. Independent board members represent less than half of the board, while women directors represent only 18% of women participation on the board (less than the 30% target).

Maintain BUY and MYR3.75 TP, 36% upside with c.3% FY22F yield. Unisem (M) recorded yet another historic high 1Q core earnings of MYR51.8m (+14.1% YoY), as expected, on stronger topline – although this was lower QoQ due to higher tax and payroll expenses. Its current share price weakness presents a good buying opportunity, as the growth momentum should be persist in the coming quarters on strong underlying demand, and better ASP despite the imminent higher operating costs.

- Meets expectations. 1Q22's revenue of MYR424.4m (+13.5%) and core earnings (+14.1%) are within our and Street full-year estimates, at 21.8% and 20.9%, in view of stronger quarters ahead amid seasonal effects. The better performance was driven by higher sales volumes and ASPs, coupled with favourable FX, while its EBIDTA margin dipped to 25.8% from 26.7%, mainly due to additional staff costs. Core earnings contracted 13.7% QoQ despite the flattish revenue (-0.5%), largely on higher tax expenses and higher payroll costs with a higher headcount (by 150) of 6,148.
- Favourable outlook with minimal disruption. Management expects stronger in the quarter ahead, with good visibility - as the overall supply of chips remains tight in the industry. Management also alluded to an ASP increase for products from the lpoh plant, to cushion the hike in its utility costs and the minimum wage. We understand that the Chengdu plant was running at full capacity with minimal disruptions despite the lockdowns, as most supplies are from multiple sources. The majority of the clients are not significantly affected at the current juncture. Meanwhile, the utilisation rate in the lpoh plants continued to be dragged by headcount and wafer shortages, but this is expected to improve with the reopening of borders and the return of foreign workers.
- Expansion plan on track. The Phase 3A expansion in Chengdu (30-40% of the existing plant) should start commissioning by Oct-Nov 2022 to capture the growing demand, followed by an accelerated expansion plan in the Gopeng facility - which should be ready by 1H23. Total capex incurred in 1Q22 was MYR182m (1Q21: MYR138m), for additional capacities at its Chengdu and the construction of Phase 3 building in Chengdu.
- Maintain BUY as we expect resilient demand for OSATs amid chip shortages and production bottlenecks. Medium-term growth can be expected once the major plant expansions in China and Ipoh begin contributing significantly to group numbers from FY23-24 onwards. We make no change to our forecasts and TP of MYR3.75, based on an unchanged FY22 target P/E of 26x (+0.5SD from the 5-year mean), after imputing a 2% ESG discount based on our in-house proprietary ESG methodology.
- Downside risks to our call are slower-than-expected orders and strongerthan-expected MYR vs the USD.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total turnover (MYRm)	1,289	1,569	1,647	1,926	2,744
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	150	202	238	274	408
Recurring net profit growth (%)	93.7	34.8	17.5	15.1	49.3
Recurring P/E (x)	29.66	22.01	18.73	16.27	10.90
P/B (x)	2.5	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.6
P/CF (x)	14.45	12.52	11.64	9.52	7.54
Dividend Yield (%)	1.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	11.59	9.87	8.29	7.34	5.04
Return on average equity (%)	9.1	9.0	10.7	11.7	16.0
Net debt to equity (%)	net cash				

Source: Company data, RHB



Financial Exhibits

Financial summary (MYR)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Recurring EPS	0.09	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.25
DPS	0.03	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
BVPS	1.10	1.34	1.41	1.50	1.67
Return on average equity (%)	9.1	9.0	10.7	11.7	16.0
-					
Valuation metrics	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Recurring P/E (x)	29.66		18.73	16.27	10.90
P/B (x)		2.1	2.0		1.6
		(2.9)	(0.4)		7.6
	1.0				2.9
					5.04
EV/EBIT (x)	22.81	19.02	14.63	12.40	7.92
	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 225	Dec 225	Dec 245
					Dec-24F 2,744
					1,432 758
•		. ,			(276)
1 81					482
					(7)
					475
		. ,			(66)
· ·					408
Recurring net profit	150	202	238	274	408
Cash flow (MYRm)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
	(20)	(74)	(70)	(29)	(94)
Cash flow from operations	308	356	383	468	590
Capex	(241)	(483)	(400)	(250)	(250)
Cash flow from investing activities	(233)	(473)	(400)	(250)	(250)
	(58)	(64)		(129)	(129)
Cash flow from financing activities					(122)
•		664	656	, ,	636
	335	4	(117)	96	219
Ending balance cash	676	674	539	636	854
Balance sheet (MYRm)	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
•					854
U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U					1,823
					3,513
					141
-					79
Total liabilities	499	617	590	654	814
			2,275	2,419	2,699
Total equity	1,773	2,166			
Total equity Total liabilities & equity	1,773 2,272	2,783	2,865	3,074	3,513
Total liabilities & equity	2,272	2,783	2,865		
				3,074 Dec-23F 17.0	Dec-24F
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics	2,272 Dec-20	2,783 Dec-21	2,865 Dec-22F	Dec-23F 17.0	Dec-24F 42.4
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue growth (%)	2,272 Dec-20 15.1 93.7	2,783 Dec-21 21.7	2,865 Dec-22F 5.0	Dec-23F	Dec-24F 42.4 49.3
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue growth (%) Recurrent EPS growth (%) Gross margin (%)	2,272 Dec-20 15.1 93.7 54.5	2,783 Dec-21 21.7 34.8 48.9	2,865 Dec-22F 5.0 17.5 51.6	Dec-23F 17.0 15.1 52.1	Dec-24F 42.4 49.3 52.2
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue growth (%) Recurrent EPS growth (%) Gross margin (%) Operating EBITDA margin (%)	2,272 Dec-20 15.1 93.7 54.5 26.7	2,783 Dec-21 21.7 34.8 48.9 25.6	2,865 Dec-22F 5.0 17.5 51.6 30.1	Dec-23F 17.0 15.1 52.1 28.5	Dec-24F 42.4 49.3 52.2 27.6
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue growth (%) Recurrent EPS growth (%) Gross margin (%) Operating EBITDA margin (%) Net profit margin (%)	2,272 Dec-20 15.1 93.7 54.5 26.7 11.1	2,783 Dec-21 21.7 34.8 48.9 25.6 11.3	2,865 Dec-22F 5.0 17.5 51.6 30.1 14.4	Dec-23F 17.0 15.1 52.1 28.5 14.2	Dec-24F 42.4 49.3 52.2 27.6 14.9
Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue growth (%) Recurrent EPS growth (%) Gross margin (%) Operating EBITDA margin (%)	2,272 Dec-20 15.1 93.7 54.5 26.7	2,783 Dec-21 21.7 34.8 48.9 25.6	2,865 Dec-22F 5.0 17.5 51.6 30.1	Dec-23F 17.0 15.1 52.1 28.5	Dec-24F 42.4 49.3 52.2 27.6
	Recurring EPS DPS BVPS Return on average equity (%) Valuation metrics Recurring P/E (x) P/B (x) FCF Yield (%) Dividend Yield (%) EV/EBITDA (x) EV/EBITDA (x) EV/EBIT (x) Income statement (MYRm) Total turnover Gross profit EBITDA Depreciation and amortisation Operating profit Net interest Pre-tax profit Taxation Reported net profit Recurring net profit Cash flow (MYRm) Change in working capital Cash flow from investing activities Dividends paid Cash flow from financing activities Dividends paid Cash flow from financing activities Dividends paid Cash flow from financing activities Dividends paid Cash at beginning of period Net change in cash Ending balance cash	Recurring EPS0.09DPS0.03BVPS1.10Return on average equity (%)9.1Valuation metricsDec-20Recurring P/E (x)29.66P/B (x)2.5FCF Yield (%)1.5Dividend Yield (%)1.0EV/EBITDA (x)11.59EV/EBIT (x)22.81Income statement (MYRm)Dec-20Total turnover1,289Gross profit703EBITDA345Depreciation and amortisation(170)Operating profit175Net interest(4)Pre-tax profit164Taxation(21)Reported net profit143Recurring net profit150Cash flow (MYRm)Dec-20Change in working capital(20)Cash flow from investing activities(233)Dividends paid(58)Cash flow from financing activities260Cash at beginning of period343Net change in cash335Ending balance cash676Balance sheet (MYRm)Dec-20Total cash and equivalents664Tangible fixed assets1,215Total assets2,272Short-term debt99	Recurring EPS 0.09 0.13 DPS 0.03 0.08 BVPS 1.10 1.34 Return on average equity (%) 9.1 9.0 Valuation metrics Dec-20 Dec-21 Recurring P/E (x) 29.66 22.01 P/B (x) 2.5 2.1 FCF Yield (%) 1.5 (2.9) Dividend Yield (%) 1.0 2.9 EV/EBITDA (x) 11.59 9.87 EV/EBIT (x) 22.81 19.02 Income statement (MYRm) Dec-20 Dec-21 Total turnover 1,289 1,569 Gross profit 703 767 EBITDA 345 402 Depreciation and amortisation (170) (194) Operating profit 175 209 Net interest (4) (2) Tre-tax profit 164 202 Taxation (21) (24) Reported net profit 150 202 Cash flow (MYRm)	Recurring EPS 0.09 0.13 0.15 DPS 0.03 0.08 0.08 BVPS 1.10 1.34 1.41 Return on average equity (%) 9.1 9.0 10.7 Valuation metrics Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Recurring P/E (x) 29.66 22.01 18.73 P/B (x) 2.5 2.1 2.0 FCF Yield (%) 1.5 (2.9) (0.4) Dividend Yield (%) 1.0 2.9 2.9 EV/EBITOA (x) 11.59 9.87 8.29 EV/EBIT (x) 22.81 19.02 14.63 Income statement (MYRm) Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Total turnover 1.289 1,569 1,647 Gross profit 703 767 849 EBITDA 345 4002 496 Depreciation and amortisation (170) (194) (215) Operating profit 175 209 282 Net interest <td>Recurring EPS 0.09 0.13 0.15 0.17 DPS 0.03 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 BVPS 1.10 1.34 1.41 1.50 Return on average equity (%) 9.1 9.0 10.7 11.7 Valuation metrics Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Dec-23F Recurring P/E (x) 2.9 66 22.01 18.73 16.27 P/B (x) 2.5 2.1 2.0 1.8 FCF Yield (%) 1.0 2.9 2.9 2.9 EV/EBITDA (x) 11.59 9.87 8.29 7.34 EV/EBIT (x) 22.81 19.02 14.63 12.40 Income statement (MYRm) Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Dec-23F Total turnover 1.289 1.569 1.647 1.926 BITDA 345 402 496 549 Depreciation and amortisation (170) (194) (215) (224) Operating profit</td>	Recurring EPS 0.09 0.13 0.15 0.17 DPS 0.03 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 BVPS 1.10 1.34 1.41 1.50 Return on average equity (%) 9.1 9.0 10.7 11.7 Valuation metrics Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Dec-23F Recurring P/E (x) 2.9 66 22.01 18.73 16.27 P/B (x) 2.5 2.1 2.0 1.8 FCF Yield (%) 1.0 2.9 2.9 2.9 EV/EBITDA (x) 11.59 9.87 8.29 7.34 EV/EBIT (x) 22.81 19.02 14.63 12.40 Income statement (MYRm) Dec-20 Dec-21 Dec-22F Dec-23F Total turnover 1.289 1.569 1.647 1.926 BITDA 345 402 496 549 Depreciation and amortisation (170) (194) (215) (224) Operating profit

Source: Company data, RHB

See important disclosures at the end of this report
Market Dateline / PP 19489/05/2019 (035080)



Results At a Glance

Figure 1: Results review

FYE Dec (MYRm)	1Q21	4Q21	1Q22	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	Comments
Revenue	373.9	426.4	424.4	(0.5)	13.5	YoY/QoQ: Mainly due to higher orders for all products and better ASP.
EBITDA	99.9	111.9	109.5	(2.1)	9.6	
EBITDA margin (%)	26.7	26.2	25.8			Economies of scale and higher ASP.
Depreciation & amortisation	(46.9)	(49.4)	(49.7)	(0.7)	(6.0)	
EBIT	53.0	62.6	59.8	(4.3)	12.8	
EBIT margin (%)	14.2	14.7	14.1			
Interest expense	(0.7)	(0.5)	(0.6)	(4.9)	22.5	
Interest income	-	-	-	Nm	Nm	
Associates	-	-	-	Nm	Nm	
El/others	0.4	(2.7)	(0.6)	(78.9)	(229.0)	FX gains/losses.
Pre-tax profit	52.8	59.3	58.7	(1.0)	11.3	
Pre-tax margin (%)	14.1	13.9	13.8			
Тах	(7.0)	(2.0)	(7.5)	(269.9)	(8.0)	
Effective tax rate (%)	(13.2)	(3.4)	(12.8)			
Minority interest	-	-	-	Nm	Nm	
Net profit	45.8	57.3	51.2	(10.6)	11.8	
Core profit	45.3	60.0	51.8	(13.7)	14.1	Within expectations.
Net margin (%)	12.1	14.1	12.2			

Source: Company data, RHB

Recommendation Chart



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

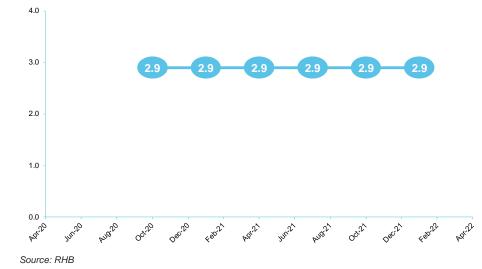
Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2022-03-21	Buy	3.8	3.1
2021-10-27	Buy	4.6	4.1
2021-08-01	Buy	10.0	4.2
2021-04-28	Buy	9.2	3.9
2021-02-26	Neutral	9.2	4.5
2020-10-25	Buy	5.5	2.2
2020-08-04	Buy	3.7	1.7
2020-04-30	Neutral	2.0	1.0
2020-04-03	Neutral	1.7	0.8
2020-02-27	Neutral	2.2	1.1
2019-08-07	Sell	1.7	1.1
2019-04-26	Sell	2.0	1.3
2019-02-26	Sell	2.3	1.5

Source: RHB, Bloomberg



Technology | Semiconductors

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Trading Buy:	Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-
	term outlook remains uncertain
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	12 months
Take Profit:	Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels
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Not Rated:	Stock is not within regular research coverage

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