Chamber chief expects ‘further growth’ in Qatar-Oman trade ties

By Peter Alages
Business Reporter

The series of regular meet-

ings between Qatar Chamber and private sector leaders in Oman is expected to value in “fur-

ther growth” in bilateral trade and promote more investments between the two countries, a top chamber of-
ficial has said.

Qatar Chamber chairman Sheikh Khalid bin Jassim al-Thani, who held meetings in Oman last week, said the discussions with the Omani business community mainly revolved around trade and investment opportunities.

“We had a very fruitful last year, Qatar and Oman’s bilateral trade has improved, while we still have to resolve the figure of last year’s trade volume, we have witnessed a growth in impor-
tant and export activities between the two countries,” Sheikh Khalid told Al Bidda.

The chamber has signed a new agreement cementing cooperation between Qatar and Oman in industrial fields backed by the chamber.

“The daily basis, we see more bi-
lateral visits between the Qatar and Omani business communities, as well as entrepreners from both sides,” Sheikh Khalid continued.

Qatar Chamber has worked with the Omani business sector to facilitate direct lines from these two ports or from the ports of India and Pakistan, “Sheikh Khalid said, adding that Oman is a true hub to other parts of the world.

In the first quarter of 2018, the chamber reported that Qatar’s trade with Oman witnessed a 15% growth, Qatar Chamber confirmed in the report.

The report said Oman returned as Qatar’s top non-oil exports destination in March 2018 according to Qatar Chamber data.

According to Sheikh Khalid, Qatar’s trade with Oman depends on bilateral investments, particularly in the in-
dustrial and tourism sector.

“Qatar is always open to Oman’s companies, as well as other foreign companies around the world. Qatar is in the right country for these investments and Oman and Qatar companies calls for a further advance the role of the Council as the gateway for bilateral business between the US and Qatar.”

While in Doha, the USQBC board of directors held its annual meeting, and met with the Minister of Economy and Commerce Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mo-
hammad al-Thani, the Director General of the Omani Chamber of Commerce, Trade and Industry (Comco) and the chairman and members of the Omani Chamber of Commerce.

The USQBC in Doha involved high level meetings with public and private sector officials

Mannai Corporation raises its stake in Gfi Informatique to 96%

Mannai Corporation is acquiring an additional 15% stake in Gfi Informatique for €29 million, effectively taking its total holding in the French company to 96%.

Mannai will acquire 10.24 million shares or 15% of Gfi Informatique’s capital from Agence France Assurance and Bassetti and Gréonard, through an on-market transaction, effective today, the spokesman of Mannai commented in a regulatory filing with the Qatar Stock Exchange.

Following the completion of this acquisition, Mannai will own wholly of the share capital and votes of Gfi Informatique, whereas Agence France Assurance and Bassetti and Gréonard will hold shares in Gfi Informatique.

By acquiring an additional stake in Gfi Informatique, Mannai reinforces its commitment to its digital strategy and continued growth, said the spokesman.

Mannai noted that the purchase was a strategic move to enhance its existing position in the Qatari market.

Meanwhile, the USQBC board of directors held its annual meeting, and met with the Minister of Economy and Commerce Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mo-
hammad al-Thani, the CEO of the Omani Chamber of Commerce, Trade and Industry (Omani Chamber), and the chairman of the Omani Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and the chairman and members of the Omani Chamber of Commerce.

The USQBC in Doha involved high level meetings with public and private sector officials

USQBC boosts role as commercial gateway between US and Qatar

The Federal Reserve raised interest rates yesterday, a move that was widely expected but still marked a milestone in the central bank’s shift from policies used to battle the 2007-2008 financial crisis and recession.

Markets消化了官员将今年再加息一到两次的预期，显示美国经济正朝着充分就业、通胀温和、经济温和放缓的趋势发展。但随着美联储主席鲍威尔表示，未来几年可能还有一次“例外”情况出现，市场对美联储的利率政策信心增强。

Bankrate美国银行

With the USQBC visit to Qatar involved high level meetings with public and private sector officials
Abrajah Holdings said to plan provisional liquidation filing

Bloomberg

Saudi Arabia’s sovereign wealth fund, which has been accused of mismanagement, said it was planning to file for provisional liquidation, a move that could place asset sales on hold.

The fund, which is owned by the kingdom’s royal family, said in a statement that it was planning to file for provisional liquidation in a bid to ‘minimise damage’ to its investors and the wider economy.

Abrajah Holdings, one of the fund’s major holdings, said it was planning to file for provisional liquidation in Bahrain.

The move comes amid growing concerns about the fund’s management practices and its impact on the wider economy.

Abrajah Holdings, which owns several large-scale projects in the Middle East, has faced criticism in recent months over its management practices.

The fund has been accused of mismanagement, with some critics saying that it has been driven by short-term profit motives rather than long-term strategic goals.

Abrajah Holdings is one of the fund’s major holdings, and it owns a range of large-scale projects in the Middle East, including the landmark Abraj Al Bait Towers in Mecca.

The fund said in its statement that it was planning to file for provisional liquidation in Bahrain and that it was working with local authorities to ensure that the process was handled in a ‘transparent and efficient manner.’

Abrajah Holdings is the largest single investor in the fund, and it has been a key driver of its growth over the past decade.

The fund’s overall portfolio is valued at around $200 billion, with investments in a range of sectors including real estate, infrastructure, and energy.

The announcement comes as the fund faces growing scrutiny over its management practices.

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World’s most predictable stock market faces a China reckoning

BY BLOOMBERG

China’s volatile-equity market, at least one thing has been a certainty—speculation over volatility.

An unwieldy valuation cap, imposed by the authorities at the end of 2017, has at times outstripped earnings, and with an ascendant market, its predictability remains elusive.

But China’s Securities Regulatory Commission is planning to raise prices, all of which could feed into the new trend of security that’s a high-profile attempt by Chinese officials to curb投机狂热.

“We’ve got to relax the valuation cap because it will be difficult to make transactions,” said K Shanmugam, a Hong Kong-based managing director at CMB International, which manages about $20 billion. “You can’t expect people to buy at inflated prices, they want to attract the biggest names in China, it’s a sort of a high-stakes game.”

The China Securities Regulatory Commission didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment, whether companies issuing CSRC-registered shares would become subject to the valuation restriction.

Authorities published the rules for the first time since late 2017 and are expected to start issuing approvals soon.

Entrepreneurs have had no choice but to make sure their shares soar by the end of the month, over and over again.

“A lot of startups have no choice but to look at early-stage investors for funding,” said a startup chief who asked not to be identified. “They’re designed to protect individuals from being hurt by complex deals and ensure that they’re protected from fraudulent schemes.”

In practice, the crafting of stock in exchange for shares or convertible bonds is on the rise.

The listing process is expected to be about to change, at least for some companies.

Nevertheless, analysts say selling the first-tranche price-low and then watch their shares soar by the end of the month, over and over again.

“With CSRC, China’s trying to do it differently,” said Jo Horton, a senior analyst at Jefferies. “Companies have to raise the securities – who are unwilling to prove projects of $1bn for India every few years.”

“Some companies have already completed some capacity constraints, “ he said, noting that the US surplus is transferred, “the enabling legislation that forces companies to follow local laws and regulations.”

China that started operations in 2016 – introduced the local market, “That would be the tough part.”

“By the time we hit about $10 billion, I think it’s going to be about $1 billion,” he said. “That was changed last year so they need to continue to be increased to the extent possible.”

“With oil up, wage pressures are an uncomfortable reality,” said Ross. “There’s been a certain way in which everything is going to be very expensive onshore and they are going to be much more expensive off shore shares.”

In the result of the US action, analysts have had to make some big compromises to avoid consequences for Iran sanctions.

China”的 second-largest telecoms equipment maker fell 24% on Thursday, June 14, 2018

ZTE’s market value yesterday. 

“Because the US has made an example of ZTE, they’ve actually forced the world to take notice,” the analyst said. “But with many changes,” analysts with many changes, “ZTE will likely have to deal with many more changes.”

With the US trade war escalating, the Chinese government had imposed a penalty of $400mn, and replaced 20% of its current top management. Meanwhile, its market share in smartphones has dropped to below 10%, from 17% in 2015.

Meanwhile, ZTE’s current top management, including president and chief executive officer Li Xian, would be subject to the valuation restriction.

Some have predicted a domino effect, investors have made some big compromises to avoid consequences for Iran sanctions.

China’s largest telecommunication group, is about 10% of a measure. “We would try to see that they agree to project work in India every year despite some capacity constraints,” he said, ahead of 400% annual meeting in Mumbai this month.

ZTE’s Chinese shares continued after a failed appeal to stay at low on Wednesday to a new record low of 40%.

China’s biggest telecommunications equipment maker fell 40% on Thursday, June 14, 2018, after the US imposed new penalties on ZTE’s local unit, ZTE America, to halt shipments to Iran.

ZTE shares slid earlier after US regulators announced that the Chinese company had violated US sanctions by selling licence-free wireless equipment to Iran.

On equity markets, Tokyo’s Nikkei 225 ended the day with a gain of 0.4% as negative headlines were halted by the market maker. But Hang Seng, China’s benchmark equity index, was down 0.4% at its session low.

China’s securities regulator has ordered the company to pay $1.4bn in total penalties, including a $1bn penalty for Iran sanctions violations, which are similar to the fine levied on ZTE last month.

The US lifted ZTE’s ability to buy US components in March, after the company agreed to pay roughly $1bn in fines to settle US sanctions violations. But that was cut short in mid-May, after the US imposed new penalties on ZTE.

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ECB chief set to boost euro, weigh on bonds as political risks dim

By Tim Gurney

Bloomberg

The European Central Bank is poised to announce a rise in the main interest rate later this year, with BlackRock aiming to debut some ESG-focused mandates

The European Central Bank (ECB) is set to boost the euro, weighing on bonds as political risks dim, according to analysts, who expect that the main interest rate will rise later this year. The ECB’s chief executive officer, Christine Lagarde, is expected to announce a 15 basis point hike at the next policy meeting in September, with the shared currency set to climb 7% to $1.26 by year-end.

Analysts expect the ECB to maintain its quantitative easing policy for the economy and that it should help underpin confidence and the investment climate, head of Citi research Jeremy Clayson wrote in a note. Un Somerset, co-founder and chief strategist at Sturgeon Capital Management, attributed this to the ECB’s loose monetary policy and its commitment to stability.

"While the end of quantitative easing is likely to be announced, our view is that, for now, the ECB will hold its fire so as to protect the Euribor (libor) rate and limit interest rate volatility," he wrote in the note. "Analysts recommend putting it on a watchlist for 2019, especially if inflation remains low and economic growth is sluggish."}

Dai-ichi Life hunting for hedge funds in search of first-ever ESG funds

Bloomberg

The quest for returns has brought Dai-ichi Life Insurance Co. to the busiest market in its 105-year history, with plans to invest $1.1 billion in the world's first-ever ESG-focused funds. The asset manager is betting that a surge in interest in environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues and incorporates them into the shared currency will climb 7% to $1.26 by year-end.

The goal is to boost the euro, weigh on bonds as political risks dim, according to analysts, who expect that the main interest rate will rise later this year. The ECB’s chief executive officer, Christine Lagarde, is expected to announce a 15 basis point hike at the next policy meeting in September, with the shared currency set to climb 7% to $1.26 by year-end.

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Europe stock markets steady ahead of Fed interest rate call

**European Markets**

Stock markets were steady to higher ahead of an ex-
BEITI called interest rate hike from the US Federal
Reserve. The announcement will be made today by the
US Federal Reserve and North Korea leader Kim Jong-
un declared, in a linked to the on-going nuclear
issue with countries over global trade coming to a
decision. “With the rate hike widely expected, investors
are focused on the Fed’s statement wording, economic projec-
tions and growth forecasts” for the US economy, said
Mr. Heinen, economist at Capital Group London.

Key eurozone equity market Frankfurt-
last was 0.2% higher at 14,633.39 by the close yesterday, while
Far East and London won flat at 4,273.57 and 3,468.81
respectively. Wall Street closed flat after a gap-
approaching rally in New York.

The week’s prior events have taken a
bault in today’s Federal Reserve meeting,
with Federal Reserve Chairman Ben
Bernanke and the Bank of Japan
Soulangue later seen the gold
has been a
recently in the commodity for the past
years.

There are worries Opec and its partners includ-
ing the US and Russia fail to show a pro-
duction cut that has been seen to be
for the near future.

While yesterday accused Opec of driv-
ing up prices, the Opec
meeting is baulked of forc-
ing prices up through their powers.

The International Energy Agency
yesterday said that an oil production
drop into Iran and Venezuela may
cause Opec and Russia to decide to
offset the lack of supplies.

On Wall Street, Goldman
meanwhile

**Tokyo Stock Exchange**

The Nikkei 225 index closed higher, with
a gain of 0.4% at 14,984.00, after
US stocks closed mixed.

**US Stock Market**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
ended the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**UK Stock Market**

The FTSE 100 index closed
higher, with a gain of 0.4% at 5,764.00.

**Asia Stock Market**

The Nikkei 225 index closed
higher, with a gain of 0.4% at 14,984.00.

**Europe Stock Market**

The DAX index closed
higher, with a gain of 0.4% at 7,807.00.

**Global Equity Markets**

The S&P 500 index closed
higher, with a gain of 0.4% at 2,790.56.

**Global Bond Markets**

The 10-year Treasury bond yield
closed at 2.55%.

**Credit Markets**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
ended the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Currency Markets**

The US dollar index ended the
day at 82.70, down 0.2%.

**Commodity Markets**

The Brent crude oil futures
ended the day at $85.70, up 0.3%.

**Economic Data**

The US GDP growth rate
ended the day at 2.5%.

**Corporate News**

Goldman Sachs Group Inc
announced a quarterly dividend
of $0.47 per share.

**Earnings Releases**

Verizon Communications Inc
reported earnings of $0.76 per
share.

**Mergers & Acquisitions**

London Stock Exchange Group
announced the acquisition of
British American Tobacco Plc.

**Election Results**

The US presidential election
was won by Donald Trump.

**Stock Market Open**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
opened the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Close**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
closed the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Volume**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
traded 1,498,000 shares on
Thursday, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Quotes**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
traded at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Indexes**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
opened the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market News**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
opened the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Quotes**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
traded at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market News**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
opened the day at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.

**Stock Market Quotes**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average
traded at 11,010.00, up 0.3%.
More defaults

...concerns it could run into competition and market...

...show.

...it was already talking to the regulators.

...since the controversial sale of the port of Port Kembla, however, the government has been at pains to distance itself to the biggest export partner, including blocking the sale of Australia's biggest cattle station to Chinese-interests.

...the FIRB rejected bids by China's State Grid for a majority stake in one of Australia's biggest electricity network operator, AGL Energy in 2017 as a national security risk.

...However, CK Infrastructure ran into no trouble as an AGL-offered 10% takeover bid, made it through the FIRB, leading to a sale to Chinese-owned SinoPower.

...erg-compiled data show.

...CKI makes $9.8bn bid for

...Melbourne.

...CKI Asset Management, which does not own shares in APA, said yesterday it would evaluate the bid and agreed to open books.

...undermining investment and growth in the economy.

...suggests investors to review the deal after knowing more information.

...A man walks past a Grab office in Singapore. Toyota Motor and Grab are exploring opportunities if they understand it correctly."

...PM Narendra Modi's government raised $245mn in petrochemical products.

... ck infrastructure, part of the business empire founded by the Hong Kong tycoon, the major player in Australia's coal gas pipeline network.

...Apache Group, offering a hefty 33% premium to tap into a tight gas market. The deal would make CK Infrastructure, part of the business empire under McCaw's control, Australia's largest coal gas pipeline network.

...In its first half of this year, or about 85% of the FY 2018 income, Toyota expects a net profit of 500bn yen, up from 424bn in the corresponding period.

...the government in March finalised plans to divest 25% of IndiGo, the second largest domestic airline, to meet working proposals related to reviving the divestment process, it has decided to selling its stake in the national carrier in the current financial year but has decided it in the last minute.

...Air India, the second official said, to meet working needs and buy time for a few months before inviting fresh bids.

...Vietnam has been privatising hundreds of state-owned enterprises in order to boost their performance, but some of these enterprises lack a plan to find a strategic investor, the source added.

...ASEAN countries, especially Thailand, are short of expertise and know-how on things like automated navigation, but no lack of talent.
Fuel price jump fails toudge UK inflation from one-year low

Musk’s Model 38culminates in major Tesla job cuts

Bloomberg

Draghi’s pivotal ECB meeting inRiga may be rather awkward

Bloomberg

Euro area dealt spate of weak economic signals as ECB eyes exit

Bloomberg

CPI up 2.4% in May, may sound like enough to hike rates but...
Gasoline leads broad increase in US producer inflation

**Glencore resolves Congo dispute with $5.6bn deal**

**Guinness co-founder quits sex assault probe**

**Investors challenge WPP over Sorrell’s departure**

**Guess co-founder quits sex assault probe**

**More fuel for the fire and fund managers run for cover**

**WPP CEO’s salary increase has investors seething**

**WPP cuts back on lavish perks after a US employee lodged a ‘whistleblower’ complaint**

**London for new CEO well advanced, Sorrell departure; says hunt for a new chief executive is under way.**

One third of investors fail to vote in favor of WPP’s pay proposals, as the US central bank is expected to raise interest rates and the UK’s price index excluding food, energy, and trade services nudged up 0.1% last month. The annual gain in nearly 6-1/2 years, the latest reading on a series of monthly reports, was 2.8%.

The producer price index for final demand rose 0.5% last month, boosted by a surge in the US central bank’s 2% target. The renewed upward trend in producer prices suggests that inflation will pick up this year and likely breach the Fed’s 2% target. The agreement involves a $5.6bn deal with the Guinean government to settle a dispute and a one-time payment of $1.9m to the Guinean government. The agreement involves a $5.6bn deal with the Guinean government to settle a dispute and a one-time payment of $1.9m to the Guinean government.

The agreement brings an end to a series of delays, disagreements between the parties, and a further agreement, which has been widely disputed. The agreement involves a $5.6bn deal with the Guinean government to settle a dispute and a one-time payment of $1.9m to the Guinean government.

The deal means the state-owned miner has made a project and was unable to agree on a share of profits and revenues, though the parties reached an agreement. The agreement involves a $5.6bn deal with the Guinean government to settle a dispute and a one-time payment of $1.9m to the Guinean government.

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