Qatar-Italy trade jumps 16% to €2.8bn in 2018, says chamber official

Ooredoo launches secure cloud infrastructure packages to boost digital transformation of SMEs

Sheikh Abdulla urges US fintech firms to come to Qatar to bolster banking sector

Excellence of Artic’s US properties recognised with coveted awards
Bloomberg QuickTake Q&A
Why Eskom’s power crisis is South Africa’s top risk

By Mike Cohen and Paul Burkhardt

A cross of South Africa’s predominant electricity supplier, Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd, as the nation’s reliability. The state-owned utility can’t cover costs and made large infrastructure investments in its institutions and networks, leading to poor service. Eskom, frustrated and unwilling to struggle to meet demand, is now getting closer to reaching a financial threshold. The company is in dire need of government bailouts to remain solvent, has instituted rotating blackouts, and has left the national economy in tatters. The government has increased and accelerated a series of breakdowns at its plants.

1. Why Eskom in such bad shape?

South Africa could produce more electricity, but its aging infrastructure has forced it to cut back on maintenance and repairs to other plants. Eskom needed to increase its capacity, and has been扰动 in several attempts to do the work, despite having a troubled track record. Now, the government is eyeing a record $2.4bn in financial aid. The entity has been on government bailouts for years, but is still years away from completion and still needs money.

2. What’s the government’s plan?

The new plan foresees the addition of 9,600 megawatts of new production capacity to the grid by 2030, with an additional 1,500 megawatts of energy drops. Meanwhile, near-bankrupt municipalities are falling behind in paying their bills. Eskom has been looted and is a magnet for corruption and mismanagement.

3. Where was management?

The entity’s top officials have been accused of corruption and mismanagement. In 2015, nine years Jacob Zuma was South Africa’s president, the entity’s board announced an $8.4bn plan to construct a new nuclear plant. Before the plan was shelved shortly after Zuma was in office. Critics of the plan argued that it wasn’t affordable and it was going to take too long.

4. How precarious is Eskom now?

Eskom is expected to add coal-fired plants that produce about 9,500 megawatts of energy within a decade. While it’s a significant source of energy production, the entity has been struggling to meet its demand. The energy budget doesn’t enable each unit to manage its costs. The utility was listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in 2000, with an end of the year 2000.

5. What’s been done to fix it?

The government has announced a plan to split the utility into separate generation, distribution and transmission businesses. A new government entity will solve the problem, but will be a challenge. The government has been trying to split the entity into separate units since 2016, and has been met with resistance.

6. What about a financial lifeline?

The budget announced on February 20, 2020 included $3.1bn in support of the government’s plan. Eskom will be provided with $1.4bn in financial aid, while the state-owned utility will receive an additional $4.2bn in funds. Eskom will need more money to keep the lights on and keep the grid running.

7. What can happen if the rescue fails?

The company is also concluding a $78mn debt-equity swap, but the plan is not likely to save the entity. Eskom is still struggling to meet demand, and it has gone to government. The state-owned utility will require an additional $2bn in financial aid to keep the lights on and keep the grid running.

8. What happens if the rescue plan fails?

The government has announced a plan to split the utility into separate generation, distribution and transmission businesses. A new government entity will solve the problem, but will be a challenge. The government has been trying to split the entity into separate units since 2016, and has been met with resistance.

9. How precarious is Eskom now?

Eskom is expected to add coal-fired plants that produce about 9,500 megawatts of energy within a decade. While it’s a significant source of energy production, the energy budget doesn’t enable each unit to manage its costs. The utility was listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in 2000, with an end of the year 2000.

South Africa’s top risk

The government has announced a plan to split the utility into separate generation, distribution and transmission businesses. A new government entity will solve the problem, but will be a challenge. The government has been trying to split the entity into separate units since 2016, and has been met with resistance.

10. What can happen if the rescue fails?

The company is also concluding a $78mn debt-equity swap, but the plan is not likely to save the entity. Eskom is still struggling to meet demand, and it has gone to government. The state-owned utility will require an additional $2bn in financial aid to keep the lights on and keep the grid running.

8. What happens if the rescue plan fails?

The government has announced a plan to split the utility into separate generation, distribution and transmission businesses. A new government entity will solve the problem, but will be a challenge. The government has been trying to split the entity into separate units since 2016, and has been met with resistance.

9. How precarious is Eskom now?

Eskom is expected to add coal-fired plants that produce about 9,500 megawatts of energy within a decade. While it’s a significant source of energy production, the energy budget doesn’t enable each unit to manage its costs. The utility was listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in 2000, with an end of the year 2000.

10. What can happen if the rescue fails?
Sustainable economics is all about green banking, says Doha Bank CEO

Dr. Seetharaman: Green banking promotes environmental-friendly practices.
Cathay shelves US dollar bond plans

By Alvin Ho, Reuters

HONG KONG (Reuters) - Cathay Dragon, the budget arm of Asia's No. 2 airline Cathay Pacific, is shelving bond plans and would rather explore the Hong Kong dollar as a benchmark for the upcoming financing, a source said on Friday.

The airline, the biggest commercial carrier to conduct green bond issues in the region, would be seeking new funding through debt issues if it could secure a green bond rating, according to a term sheet issued at the time, seen by Reuters.

Media reports said that the airline's first US dollar debt shift to Cathay Dragon was made because of a lawsuit for the airline's name being trademarked in the U.S., while the credit rating of the US$300 million bond proposal was not well received.

The source, who was not authorised to speak to the media, said that Cathay's term sheet had said the funding would be used to refinance outstanding conditions.
China’s Liu confirms phase 1 of US trade deal is in progress

Philippines central bank chief open to another reserve ratio cut for banks

China’s Liu confirms phase 1 of US trade deal is in progress

Duterte revamps his priority infrastructure projects’ list

Asia’s plastic makers fall victim to oil tanker rates surge
Top Five Decliners

The industrial sector was the second biggest contributor to the overall trading value, accounting for 40.9%, followed by the industrials sector, which accounted for 22.1% of the overall trading volume. Masraf Al Rayan (MARK) was the best performing stock for the week with a gain of 7.0% on a total trading volume of 43.7mn shares traded. On the other hand, Ahli Bank (ABQK) was the worst performing stock for the week with a decline of 4.3% on 50,536 shares traded only.

Maraal Al Rayan (MARL), Qatar Islamic Bank (QIIB) and Qatar International Islamic Bank (QIIB) were the primary contributors to the weekly index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the index's weekly increase, adding 53.5 points to the index. Moreover, QIIK tacked on 24.3 points contributing 24.5 points to the index. QIBK was the second biggest contributor to the overall index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the overall index gain. QNBK was the top value traded stock during the week with total traded value of QR3,869mn. Trading volume increased by 16.3% to 234,447,402 shares during the week. The banks and financial services sector led the trading volume, accounting for 40.1% of the total trading value.

The industrials sector was the second biggest contributor to the overall trading value, accounting for 40.9%, followed by the industrials sector, which accounted for 22.1% of the overall trading volume. Masraf Al Rayan (MARK) was the best performing stock for the week with a gain of 7.0% on a total trading volume of 43.7mn shares traded. On the other hand, Ahli Bank (ABQK) was the worst performing stock for the week with a decline of 4.3% on 50,536 shares traded only.

Maraal Al Rayan (MARL), Qatar Islamic Bank (QIIB) and Qatar International Islamic Bank (QIIB) were the primary contributors to the weekly index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the index's weekly increase, adding 53.5 points to the index. Moreover, QIIK tacked on 24.3 points contributing 24.5 points to the index. QIBK was the second biggest contributor to the overall index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the overall index gain. QNBK was the top value traded stock during the week with total traded value of QR3,869mn. Trading volume increased by 16.3% to 234,447,402 shares during the week. The banks and financial services sector led the trading volume, accounting for 40.1% of the total trading value.

The industrials sector was the second biggest contributor to the overall trading value, accounting for 40.9%, followed by the industrials sector, which accounted for 22.1% of the overall trading volume. Masraf Al Rayan (MARK) was the best performing stock for the week with a gain of 7.0% on a total trading volume of 43.7mn shares traded. On the other hand, Ahli Bank (ABQK) was the worst performing stock for the week with a decline of 4.3% on 50,536 shares traded only.

Maraal Al Rayan (MARL), Qatar Islamic Bank (QIIB) and Qatar International Islamic Bank (QIIB) were the primary contributors to the weekly index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the index's weekly increase, adding 53.5 points to the index. Moreover, QIIK tacked on 24.3 points contributing 24.5 points to the index. QIBK was the second biggest contributor to the overall index gain. MARK was the biggest contributor to the overall index gain. QNBK was the top value traded stock during the week with total traded value of QR3,869mn. Trading volume increased by 16.3% to 234,447,402 shares during the week. The banks and financial services sector led the trading volume, accounting for 40.1% of the total trading value.
ECB chief Draghi’s final meeting will be no lap of honour

Bloomberg
London

Traders are signaling that the final meeting needed to start buying more bonds, as those looking forward to the ECB chief to retire

Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York


deciding whether to resume sales in the currency is “worth looking at,”

ECB chief Draghi’s final meeting will be no lap of honour

Bloomberg
London

The ECB is not expected to make any

The Wall Street Journal
New York

The ECB is expected to make some

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

The Wall Street Journal
New York

The Wall Street Journal
New York

The Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,

Economic Outlook

Bloomberg
London

Economists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. say the eurozone might have cleared by the end of January, and elections in

Treasury market signals
Fed may need to buy more than just bills

The Wall Street Journal
New York

Technology companies, which make up a significant portion of the market, are expected to post growth in sales and profits,
MercadoLibre plans to double down on its Brazilian bet next year

By Alex Longley and Ian Chorley  Bloomberg

BRASILIA—MercadoLibre Inc. plans to invest more than $3 billion in its Brazilian business over the next few months, despite a divergence between local interest rates and those in the U.S., according to a recent filing.

The plans for MercadoLibre’s Brazilian business will come as the country is facing a recession, as a result of a strong Brazilian real, the country’s currency, and a tightening in monetary policy by the Central Bank.

MercadoLibre is a Latin American e-commerce platform that allows users to buy and sell items online. The company recently announced a partnership with Latin America’s largest Internet provider, Claro, to offer faster delivery and lower shipping costs for its customers.

The company also plans to increase its spending on marketing and sales in Brazil, as it looks to grow its customer base and increase sales.

In addition to its new partnership with Claro, MercadoLibre announced it will also expand its delivery network in Brazil, with plans to add 16 larger cities to its current network of 150.

The Brazilian market is expected to reach $25 billion in 2023, according to a report by eMarketer. The company’s plans to double down on its Brazilian business is likely to help it achieve this growth.

However, the company faces a number of challenges, including increased competition from local and international players, as well as economic challenges such as inflation and a strong currency.

Despite these challenges, MercadoLibre remains confident in its ability to grow its business in Brazil and is committed to investing in the region to support its growth.

For more information, please visit the company’s website at www.mercadolibre.com.
ECB policymakers cool on more stimulus even if outlook worsens

Bloomberg

European Central Bank policymakers don’t expect any more monetary stimulus likely to be drained away in their economic forecasts in December, according to euro-area officials.

The mood on the Governing Council regarding policy makers’ desire to stimulate growth is starting to fade, as officials warn that patience is needed and that the central bank needs to be cautious. The European Central Bank last month kept interest rates on hold, saying that it is confident that its efforts to support the economy will have a positive impact.

“ECB policymakers are cool on more stimulus even if outlook worsens,” said an official familiar with the situation. “They are starting to think that patience is needed and that the ECB needs to be cautious.”

The official noted that the central bank is concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”

The official said that policymakers are also concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”

The official said that policymakers are also concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”

The official said that policymakers are also concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”

The official said that policymakers are also concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”

The official said that policymakers are also concerned about the risk of further monetary stimulus, given that the economy is already starting to recover. “We are in a new phase of policymaking, where the focus is on stimulating growth and keeping inflation under control.”