Asian businesses looking at Qatar for opportunities: QFC

Asian businesses are increasingly looking at Qatar for business opportunities in view of the nation's macro fundamentals of the country and its open economy policy, according to the head of missions from the recent roadshow of the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC).

Following successfully concluding its roadshow in Asia, which included India and Tokyo, the QFC and its local partners are looking forward to welcoming them to its platform.

The QFC, in collaboration with the Qatar National Convention Bureau (QNCB), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and Japan Co-operation Center (JCC), organized a seminar ‘Invest in Qatar’ . Participants included representatives from the Information Industry; and Startup Terrace (SME try of Economic Affairs (MOEA); TAITRA; Financial Bureau of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA); and Bureau of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Doha.

‘Asia remains an important market to Qatar and home to a number of high-profile companies in the region. The event was attended by senior representatives from the QFC, Bureau of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Industrial and Commerce, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), Ministry of Information and Communication of the Republic of India, Ministry of Economy and Trade Cooperation of Japan, Ministry of Economic Affairs of Taiwan and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Doha.

Al-Kaabi meets Pakistan Minister for Power and Petroleum

During the visit, the minister was mostly interested in meeting Muntajat’s people, getting to know the business, and understanding the company’s key strategies to ensure the smooth operations of the downstream industry and is strongly committed to continuing Muntajat’s efforts in producing quality products to meet Qatar’s downstream products.

Al-Kaabi, said, “Baladna has played a major role in the food security and sustainability in Qatar. We will be a true partner in the Food Security Programme. We know there is more we can do to help support the wellness of ordinary citizens to share in BFI’s success and contribute to Qatar achieving 100% food security and sustainability.”

Baladna outlines its vision for contributing to secure, sustainable food supply in Qatar

Baladna has outlined its vision for contributing to secure, sustainable food supply in Qatar. The company has been exploring partnerships with public and private sector organizations, including universities, to support research into improving sustainable production and protecting the environment. Baladna and Qatar are committed to improving sustainable production and protecting the environment.

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Rand gains with bonds as S Africa dodges downgrade

By Arno Maasehberger

The green of finance in South Africa seems to be positively seeped. The latest ratings of the country’s economic performance are shining, particularly on the back of its strong growth and improved macroeconomic indicators. The country’s credit rating, which has been on a downward trajectory for the past few years, is now showing signs of stability. The latest ratings from major rating agencies such as Moody’s and S&P Global Ratings have been positive, with Moody’s recently raising its outlook for South Africa to stable from negative, and S&P maintaining its rating at Baa3 with a stable outlook.

The country’s improving economic picture has been bolstered by strong growth in the second quarter of the year, driven by robust domestic demand and improving external conditions. The latest data from the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) showed that the economy grew by 5.1% year-on-year in the second quarter, marking the strongest quarterly growth since the first quarter of 2013.

Moody’s Investors Service on Friday held back from downgrading South Africa, saying the country needed more time to implement reforms and enhance its economic prospects. The agency maintained its Baa3 rating with a stable outlook for the country, indicating that leaving certain markets would be considered. Other rating agencies, including Fitch and S&P, have already placed South Africa on negative outlook or credit watch.

The positive ratings outlook is a welcome development for South Africa, which has been buffeted by a string of economic challenges, including low growth, high unemployment, and political instability. The country’s economic prospects have been further clouded by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit the country particularly hard, with high rates of infection and a slowing of economic activity.

South Africa is also facing a number of other challenges, including high debt levels, corruption, and weak institutional governance. The government has been embroiled in a series of controversies, including the Gupta family scandal, which has led to increased pressure for accountability and transparency.

The positive ratings outlook is a much-needed boost for South Africa, which has been struggling to attract investment and improve its economic prospects. The government has been taking steps to Address these challenges, including implementing reforms to strengthen governance and reduce corruption, and working to attract foreign investment to boost growth. The positive ratings outlook is a sign that South Africa is making progress in addressing these challenges, and that investors are beginning to see the country’s economic prospects.

However, there is still much work to be done, and the country will need to continue to implement strong economic policies to sustain its growth and improve its creditworthiness. The government will need to focus on improving governance, reducing corruption, and implementing structural reforms to boost growth and create jobs.

South Africa is also facing a number of external challenges, including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing trade disputes between the US and China. The country will need to continue to navigate these challenges, while also addressing its internal economic challenges.

Overall, the positive ratings outlook is a welcome development for South Africa, and a sign that the country is making progress in addressing its economic challenges. However, there is still much work to be done, and the government will need to continue to implement strong economic policies to sustain its growth and improve its creditworthiness.

**General Tenders Committee requests the following for the following:****

**Request for Proposal (RFP), Title:****

**The Scope of Work for the Project:****

The Scope of Work for the Project: It is proposed to engage a consultancy to develop a comprehensive programme that includes a detailed analysis of the existing financial inclusion landscape, a review of the current regulatory framework, and the identification of gaps and opportunities for improvement. The consultancy will also be required to develop a strategic plan for the implementation of the programme, including a detailed project timeline, budget, and key performance indicators. The consultancy will also be required to conduct a stakeholder engagement exercise to ensure the buy-in of key stakeholders.

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Al-Attiyah Foundation CEO Roundtable discusses heavy industry’s opportunities and challenges to reduce CO2 emissions

HE Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah, chairman of the Al-Attiyah Foundation, addresses the foundation’s 3rd CEO Roundtable discussion of 2019, held in Doha last month. Four international guest speakers shared their knowledge and opinions at the event.

The Al-Attiyah Foundation hosted world-renowned experts to explore the challenges and opportunities heavy industry faces in the race to reduce CO2 emissions. Four international guest speakers shared their knowledge and opinions at the event. The foundation’s 3rd CEO Roundtable discussion of 2019, held in Doha last month, hosted by HE Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah, chairman and founder of the Al-Attiyah Foundation, the CEO Roundtable quarterly series allows governments and industry today. The threats presented by climate change have led to an increase in the costs of doing business, with many industries facing a need to innovate and adapt to new technologies to reduce emissions and costs. The cement industry was the third largest emitter of CO2 in 2017, with a production of 4.5 billion tons of cement. The cement industry is considered to be the third largest emitter of CO2 in the world, and its production is expected to increase by 20% by 2050. The cement industry is also a key player in the global economy, with a global market value of $300 billion.

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Emerging currencies and equities rise

Hong Kong

China markets feel the pain of stalled derivatives rollout

Singapore and Hong Kong, where rival exchanges that are subject to less government interference are rushing in with China-related products.

Investors look at computer screens showing stock information at a brokerage house in China. Shanghai is losing market share in derivatives to other financial centres such as Singapore and Hong Kong, where rules that are subject to less government interference are being created with China-related products.

S

ubmarin’s market capitalisation had been $7.7bn, but on Friday it surged to $10.2bn after the China Securities Regulatory Commission removed a ban on the stock’s derivatives. Mr Su had said his board had spoken on Friday to US Trade Representatives Robert Lighthizer and Steven Mnuchin about the issue and that they were “very open”.

Asian equities rallied on Friday, in the case of the Nikkei, for the first time this year. The Nikkei 225 Index climbed to a record yesterday as better-than-expected US non-farm payrolls data improved sentiment.

As foreign money rapidly flows into China, it is helping to attract investors.

Hong Kong

India’s benchmark stock index advanced to a record yesterday as better-than-expected government bond yields continued to attract investors.

The BSE Sensex climbed to 40,305.96 points at close in Mumbai, adding about the previous close’s gains. At the close, Sensex was up 0.4%. The 30 gauge for a seventh straight session to come its longest winning streak since March. The Nifty 50 index also rose 0.5%.

The rand shed about 3% last week, its worst weekly performance in 14 months, as optimism over a trade deal between Washington and Beijing continued to attract funds to emerging market assets.

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The de-escalation of trade tensions between the US and China has triggered the quarterly whether issues have been too negative and these entities continue again and again. However, this is not the case at Goldman Sachs. "We expect the US-China trade tensions to continue, and this will have a negative impact on the Chinese economy. However, we do not see any major changes in the US-China trade relationship in the near future."

Many fund managers have chosen to sit on this year's rally in equities and take a more conservative approach. However, we believe that this is a good opportunity to invest in stocks that will benefit from the global growth outlook.
**Stock markets rally as jobs optimism lingers in the US**

Globally, stock markets rallied today as optimism from a second-quarter US jobs report lifted and conditions grew hot in China and the United States will finally restart their economies this month. Investors also lifted sentiment after a British Airways owner IAG, which agreed to buy Spain's Air Europa for €1.1 billion, sending its share prices up 1.2% in London.

Investor sentiment was also lifted by Britain’s strong economy, which agreed to buy Spain’s Air Europa for €1.1 billion, sending its share price up 1.2% in London. European markets were “starting off the week in positive moods, with stocks following the data conditions,” said a trader in Tokyo. "The upbeat sentiment in world markets on Wall Street has been underpinned by the US all-time high achieved in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which hit 29,368.10 points. A buoyant sentiment was also boosted by comments from Chinese Vice Premier Liu, that indicated trade talks with Washington were on track. Liu told a joint news conference with US Trade Representatives Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, with both sides saying the talks were "constructive" progress on the discussions has provided support to equities for the past few weeks, with speculation that a deal could be signed in the next few months.

While the agreement would only be the first part of a wider deal, it would be a major step after more than a year of trade talks that has undermined the world economy. An economic revival in Australia that Fed economists point to was still an unknown and if the issue is not resolved by the end of the year, then the deal could easily collapse," he said in a note.

### DOW

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### WORLD INDICES

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### HONG KONG

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### TFE 100

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### GCC INDICES

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The bull status quote from the FrankHutt Stock Exchange. The DAX 30 ended at 13,136.28 points yesterday.

Stock markets rally as jobs optimism lingers in the US

Wall Street also also pushed higher, striking new records, building on a strong performance on Tuesday after the Labor Department said the US created 266,000 new jobs in October, surpassing the 245,000 expected, while the figure for the previous two months was also revised upwards. The backlog came as data also showed the US economy slowed slightly in July-September but not as much as projected, which suggested it is stabilizing.

The upbeat sentiment on Wall Street has been underpinned by the US all-time high achieved in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which hit 29,368.10 points. A buoyant sentiment was also boosted by comments from Chinese Vice Premier Liu, that indicated trade talks with Washington were on track. Liu told a joint news conference with US Trade Representatives Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, with both sides saying the talks were "constructive" progress on the discussions has provided support to equities for the past few weeks, with speculation that a deal could be signed in the next few months.

While the agreement would only be the first part of a wider deal, it would be a major step after more than a year of trade talks that has undermined the world economy. An economic revival in Australia that Fed economists point to was still an unknown and if the issue is not resolved by the end of the year, then the deal could easily collapse," he said in a note.
China reviews Xi’s options to visit US to ink Trump trade deal

Bloomberg

China is reviewing locations in the US where President Xi Jinping might choose to visit during a possible state visit in order to sign a trade deal, according to people familiar with the situation.

The visits would be part of a broader push to show that the US and China are working together to end the trade war and improve relations. The two sides have already agreed to sign a deal that covers about half of the issues in phase one of the trade agreement, and the talks are expected to resume this week.

However, the exact timing and location of any visit by Xi have not yet been finalized. The options being considered include a visit to the White House, a trip to a US city, or a visit to a US military base.

A string of smaller smelter outages have continued this year due to lower output at Nyrstar’s Port Pirie’s technical travails remain a key concern for South Australia’s lead smelter in Australia.

The latest outages have been at the Nyrstar site in Portugal, where the company has said it is still assessing the extent of the damage caused by the recent explosions.

The company has stated that it is working to resolve the issues as quickly as possible, and that it is taking steps to improve the safety of its operations.

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Merkel cheers VW’s electric push amid growing climate critique

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel cheered the launch of a mass-market vehicle based on a technology developed solely for battery-powered cars.

> **“It’s important that electric vehicles become affordable to regular drivers. It’s important that synergies without factory closures.”**

> **Thomas Ulbrich, CEO of Volkswagen’s electric unit**

Merkel — who critics say has long been soft on the auto industry — has been under fire for failing to make a deal with Fiat Chrysler before the US presidential election.

> **“There is a strategic sense, but there are significant barriers,” Oddo BHF said.**

> **Agnelli clan in Italy and the Peugeot family are advised by Zaoui & Co.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

Eurozone factories stuck in a slump as trade war still biting

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

A gauge of economic activity in the eurozone has slipped further into negative territory as manufacturing and services companies struggle to find the pace to return to normal.

> **“We have seen further cutbacks in the inventories of finished goods and raw materials as companies continue to trim stocks.”**

> **Daniele Comin, chief economist at Mediobanca.**

Aumbois, an economist at Société Générale, said he no longer expects the region’s biggest economies to avoid a technical recession this year. But there is widespread agreement that the eurozone is facing a deep downturn.

> **“It is now official. Europe is officially in recession.”**

> **Olivier Blanchard, chief economist at Allianz.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

A survey of sentiment across the eurozone collapsed sharply last month as demand cooled after a Trump-China trade war that has battered global growth.

> **“We believe the worst is yet to come.”**

> **Jonathan Friedman, an economist at Countrywide Intelligence and Research Associates.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

The KKR & Co-led deal for标的 was announced earlier this month, with a 

> **“In our view, it is a bad deal for Europe.”**

> **Oliver Kobe, a German economist at the Conference Board.**

Some employees chafe as Google’s new internal rules take hold

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

Google is tightening rules to combat harassment as it faces increased scrutiny over sexual misconduct allegations.

> **“We have seen that it is possible to have a safe and healthy workplace.”**

> **Andrew Bosworth, Google’s chief business officer.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

A controversial new rule at Google has been met with frustration among employees and community guidelines, which are seen as anathema to the company’s culture.

> **“We have to do a better job of not being so reactive.”**

> **Daniele Comin, chief economist at Mediobanca.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

Volkswagen AG will lead the group’s mass-market push for electric vehicles, with a new model previewed on Thursday, the company said.

> **“Wolfgang Diess, the CEO of Volkswagen, in an interview yesterday evening.”**

> **Oddo BHF, a bank that focuses on Italy, said Fiat brings PSA a long-sought presence in European automotive operations.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

The US company was criticized by workers and others for relying too much on low-cost suppliers and manufacturing in China.

> **“It is going to happen, dependently.”**

> **Gilbert Chikli, a former head of the control department at the US company.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

A Google employee whose work was deemed to be in violation of the new guidelines was fired.

> **“Google is not perfect. We have a lot of work to do.”**

> **Andrew Bosworth, Google’s chief business officer.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

One of the most controversial new rules bars employees from using inside knowledge of a company’s strategy or plans to profit from a personal trade.

> **“It’s going to happen, in this company.**

> **Gilbert Chikli, a former head of the control department at the US company.**

**Bloomberg**

**Original Article:**

Google is tightening rules to combat harassment as it faces increased scrutiny over sexual misconduct allegations.

> **“We have seen that it is possible to have a safe and healthy workplace.”**

> **Andrew Bosworth, Google’s chief business officer.**
Qatar Chamber scored a win in a meeting with the Greek-Qatar Business Council and a group of journalists and bloggers from Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece in Doha yesterday.

Qatar Chamber second vice-chairman Rashid bin Hamad al-Athba in a meeting with the Greece-Qatar Business Council and a group of journalists and bloggers from Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece.

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Qatar Insurance Company (QIC) has again been recognized as the Top Investment House in a survey conducted by The Asset magazine in collaboration with Benchmark Research. The survey, which is conducted biannually, is based on a number of notes criteria covering a scorecard of 3,144. More than 77 different institutions and asset experts, brokers, analysts, economists and traders in these institutions in the Middle East and Asia Pacific region were also subject to a rigorous evaluation process, which was determined by the rating of the individual traders influencing the score for the investors.

The prestigious winning position was based on the following results: Qatar’s GDP stood at $225bn in 2018. However, domestic institutional investors’ net profit amounted to about QR417mn last year in USD, EUR, and JPY, while their net profit was QR3.29mn on November 3.

The ranking methodology used for the survey was based on the number of votes won by the respondents as well as their investors. QIC, as the number one insurance company, is honored to be named as the “Top Investment House” from Menas region, and also brings to the fore our passion and commitment in maintaining our status as a market leader in the insurance and investment management space.

Huawei appoints VP for enterprise networking for Middle East Expansion

Huawei is looking at global providers of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices to develop innovative ICT solutions for its Middle East, Pakistan and Turkey region – a major opportunity for driving business growth for its enterprise network business division.

As a demonstration of Huawei’s commitment to innovation and ICT infrastructure to stimulate various sectors, markets, and industries, Huawei has established a new headquarters in Doha, as part of the company’s vision to expand into new markets and further strengthen its presence in the Middle East region.

In addition, the ranking of the individual traders in these institutions was subject to a rigorous evaluation process, which was determined by the rating of the individual traders influencing the score for the investors.

In the Qatar Chamber’s annual survey conducted by The Asset magazine in collaboration with Benchmark Research, the survey, which is based on the number of votes won by the respondents, was subject to a rigorous evaluation process, which was determined by the rating of the individual traders influencing the score for the investors.

Investments by Greek-Qatar Business Council highlight the importance of relations under the Qatar National Vision 2030, which stresses the importance of the private sector to overcome the crisis, revitalize the private sector and maximize its contributions to Qatar’s economic development. The QCB’s efforts are aimed at the private sector to overcome the crisis, revitalize the private sector and maximize its contributions to Qatar’s economic development.

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