Qatar posts 4% growth in shareholders’ profits to QR75.72mn in 2020

The ordinary general meeting recording results of the first quarter of 2020 will be held between 3-4 February, in virtual mode. The meeting was approved by the board of directors. The annual report for 2020 is available on the company’s website. Qatar Insurance Company’s shareholders are reminded that the registration deadline for the meeting is 20 January 2021. The general assembly was attended by 7,650 shareholders, representing 97.9% of the capital. The meeting was approved by the board of directors. The annual report for 2020 is available on the company’s website.
Dangers of Big Oil spending cuts are visible in Angola's output slump

Bloomberg

The decline of Angola, from being Africa's top crude producer a few years ago to being a price-competitive cramer today, has been steep and sudden. Its oil sector has traded in the red for months, and the country's fragile economy is facing a serious threat. Angola's oil output has been falling sharply, and the country is suffering from economic difficulties.

A general view of an oil terminal of the Sonangol company is seen near the eastern town of Malange, Angola, on October 4, 2020. Angola, which is facing its worst economic crisis in years, is expected to suffer a further decline in oil output in the coming months.

Reuters

Bloomberg

Opec+ faces calls to cool market frenzy with its extra oil barrels

Russias February output hike likely to increase Opec+ quota

Bloomberg

Opec+, the group of major oil producers that includes Russia, is facing pressure to cool down the market frenzy over the prospect of a supply glut. The group is considering increasing its output by a million barrels a day, which would be a significant shift from the recent trend of cutting production. The move is designed to prevent a sharp drop in oil prices, which could hurt the economies of oil-producing countries.

Oil crash pushed 2020 US output to first fall in 4 years

Bloomberg

The US oil market is facing a significant shift, with crude output dropping for the first time in four years. The pandemic and the economic shutdowns have caused a sharp decline in demand, and the oil prices are struggling to find a bottom. The US oil market has been in a state of flux, with production up and down, and the future is uncertain.
Pandemic binge likely spurred Turkey to ‘top of the growth league’

Invitation to participate in Barwa Tenders

Barwa Real Estate Company wishes to invite capable and competent companies to participate in BARWA’s tenders related to provision of materials / services to Barwa District Cooling Plant, as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tender Reference</th>
<th>Tender Title</th>
<th>Tender Bond</th>
<th>Non-refundable Tender Fee</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BREPFGAM01/2021</td>
<td>Provision of required spare parts for the required equipment</td>
<td>QAR 5,000</td>
<td>QAR 200</td>
<td>26/03/2021 11.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BREPFGAM02/2021</td>
<td>Provision, installation, and maintenance of cooling tower water units</td>
<td>QAR 5,000</td>
<td>QAR 200</td>
<td>26/03/2021 11.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BREPFGAM03/2021</td>
<td>Upgrade of PLC and SCADA plant control</td>
<td>QAR 5,000</td>
<td>QAR 200</td>
<td>26/03/2021 11.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tender Document of the above Tender to be collected from:

Tender Committee Secretary

Barwa Real Estate Company

Barwa Al-Sadd Towers – Tower 1 – 16th Floor
P.O. Box: 27777 Doha-Qatar

The documents shall be handed over to the bidding company representative upon presentation of a formal letter of authorization on bidding company letterhead, duly signed and stamped (company seal), copy of the Commercial Registration and proof of payment for Tender Fee above payable to:

Beneficiary: Barwa Real Estate Company
Bank Name: Dukhan Bank, Main Branch, Doha – Qatar
Account No.: 00000000022
IBAN Number: QA88HB00000000000000022

Tender documents must be submitted with a Tender Bond in accordance with the tender document issued in a form of a Bank Guarantee from one of the local Banks registered in Qatar valid 120 days from the closing date, after which any non-submitted offers will be considered.

Tender bid document to be submitted to:

Tender Committee Secretary

Barwa Real Estate Company
Barwa Al-Sadd Towers – Tower 1 – 16th Floor
P.O. Box: 27777 Doha-Qatar

Oman transfers stake in biggest oil block to new energy company

Governments are moving to secure new energy sources as oil prices jump.

One of the Middle East’s largest oil companies is about to relaunch an energy business aimed at attracting more local investors

The International Monetary Fund raised its growth forecast for Turkey’s economy to 9.2% in 2022 amid the continuous rise in energy prices.

The country has been facing a zero-interest rate policy since last year and is expected to continue until the end of the year.
Debt engineers tackle climate change with bonds to rewild land

Airline shares soaring, but there’s still a long way to go to make up the lost ground

Robinhood to plan confidential IPO filing as soon as March
**Business I**

**Bloomberg**

**Estomsheld bonds trade brace for more pain as Fed speakers line up**

D الإلكتروנiska щиарa ерьішs in a rising yield environment.

The move was part of its efforts to help...

The central bank in Mexico..., which are considered more...

**MEXICO CITY**

Mexico's central bank is tightening its super-vision of banks and insurers, increasing its monitoring of credit and financial markets, and intensifying its efforts to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

The central bank has already taken some steps to strengthen its supervision, including increasing the number of inspections and audits of financial institutions, as well as implementing new regulations aimed at improving the transparency of the financial system.

The central bank is also working with other international organizations to improve its regulatory framework and increase its capacity to detect and prevent financial crimes.

The central bank's efforts are part of a broader international effort to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, which has become a major concern in recent years.

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**Bloomberg**

**South Africa’s central bank warns of further rate hikes, citing inflation and global risks**

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) is warning that it may have to raise interest rates further to combat inflation and other risks.

The SARB, which has already increased rates several times this year, said it is monitoring developments in the global economy closely, including the impact of higher oil prices and the possibility of further interest rate hikes by other central banks.

The central bank’s decision to hold interest rates steady this month is likely to be a disappointment to some investors, who had expected a further rate hike to help control inflation.

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**Nigeria central bank chief suggests naira has been devalued**

The Governor of Nigeria’s central bank, Godwin Emefiele, has suggested that the naira has been devalued.

When asked whether the currency had been devalued, he said: “I think the central bank has already devalued the naira.”

However, the official data shows that the naira has been stable in recent months, with the official exchange rate remaining unchanged.

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**Eskom bondholders take comfort from guarantee**

Eskom bondholders are taking comfort from a government guarantee for the state-owned utility company.

The guarantee was announced by the government in September, following a series of credit rating downgrades for Eskom.

The guarantee is seen as providing some relief to bondholders, who had been concerned about the company’s ability to service its debt.

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**Mexico equity upside to double deeper under Lopez Obrador’s watch**

Mexico’s equity market is expected to benefit from the policies of President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who has promised a number of reforms to boost growth and reduce inequality.

The Mexican stock market has already shown some signs of improvement in recent months, with the benchmark IPC index up more than 10% so far this year.

However, there are still concerns about the country’s ability to maintain macroeconomic stability, particularly given the political uncertainty that has accompanied the change in leadership.

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Troublesome trio in EMs faces yield-spike scare

Warning Signal

Emerging-market bonds fell below their 50-day moving average

Source: Bloomberg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>P/E Ratio</th>
<th>Market Cap</th>
<th>Industry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company A</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>100B</td>
<td>Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company B</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>50B</td>
<td>Healthcare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company C</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>25B</td>
<td>Energy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to react to a market sell-off

1. Review your portfolio and consider rebalancing.
2. Consider hedging your portfolio to protect against downside risk.
3. Keep an eye on the yield curve and be prepared to adjust your strategy accordingly.

South Korea will report February trade figures today, with exports probably growing for a fourth straight month as global demand picks up. Inflation data for the month is also due tomorrow, and final fourth-quarter GDP growth figures could be released on Thursday.

South Korea’s main stock index slipped in trading on Friday, as investor sentiment remained cautious following a sharp rally earlier this week. The Kospi closed down 0.3% at 2,945.3 points, marking the second consecutive day of losses. The Kosdaq, the index for small and medium-sized companies, fell 0.5% to 794.5 points.

The Kospi has reversed gains from earlier this week, as investors weighed the prospect of higher interest rates following the Federal Reserve’s decision last week to raise rates. Analysts expect the Bank of Korea to follow suit, possibly increasing rates at its next policy meeting in March.

The Korean Composite Stock Price Index (Kospi) fell over 1% in early trading on Monday as investors digested the Fed’s rate hike, which could signal the start of a tightening cycle in the U.S. economy. The Kosdaq, which tracks smaller companies, also lost ground, down 0.9%.

In Japan, the Nikkei 225 index slipped 0.2% to 26,445.5 points, while the Topix index, which measures the performance of all issues listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, shed 0.3% to 1,999.8 points.

In China, the Hang Seng index dropped 0.6% to 21,759.5 points, as investors remained cautious after a strong rally in the previous session. The Shanghai Composite index also fell 0.4% to 3,928.4 points.

In India, the Sensex index lost 0.2% to 60,035.7 points, while the Nifty index also declined 0.2% to 17,868.2 points. The sharp selling in the Asian markets came after a sharp rally in the previous session.

In Europe, the FTSE 100 index was down 0.4% at 7,643.5 points, while the Stoxx 600 index shed 0.3% to 431.5 points.

In the United States, the S&P 500 index edged lower, after posting a record high earlier in the week. The Dow Jones Industrial Average also declined, giving up earlier gains.

In the currency market, the dollar strengthened against major rivals, buoyed by the Fed’s rate hike. The euro was down 0.3% at $1.1270, while the yen was flat at 109.17 per dollar.

Gold prices fell on Friday, with investors focusing on the Fed’s rate decision. Spot gold was down 0.3% at $1,863.50 per ounce,

Crude oil prices fell as well, with West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude down 0.5% at $60.20 per barrel.

In the wake of the Fed’s rate hike, investors are closely watching for any signs of a slowdown in the economy. The Fed’s decision could signal a more aggressive approach to inflation, which could have implications for other central banks around the world.

Analysts say the Fed’s move could set a precedent for other central banks to follow suit, potentially raising interest rates globally. However, some analysts warn that the move could also spark a global recession if not handled carefully.

Inflation figures are expected to show a slowdown in the United States, which could give the Fed some leeway to keep rates low for longer. In China, inflation is expected to pick up, which could prompt the central bank to raise rates sooner than expected.

The Bank of Japan is expected to leave rates unchanged, but market participants are watching for any signs of a change in policy direction.

In Europe, the European Central Bank is expected to keep rates low for the time being, but there are signs that some members of the ECB are starting to push for a change in policy direction.

In South Korea, the Bank of Korea is expected to leave rates unchanged, but there are signs that some members of the bank may be starting to push for a change in policy direction.

In India, the Reserve Bank of India is expected to keep rates low for the time being, but there are signs that some members of the bank may be starting to push for a change in policy direction.

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China's economic recovery slows in February amid holiday disruptions

Employees work on a truck assembly line at a vehicle-manufacturing facility in Shanghai. China's economic recovery showed signs of slowing in February as factories shut down during the Lunar New Year holiday and virus restrictions dampened what was usually a busy travel season.

China's economic recovery showed signs of slowing in February as factories shut down during the Lunar New Year holiday and virus restrictions dampened what was usually a busy travel season.

Chinese investment in Australia plunges as relations sour

Chinese investment in Australia plunged last year by more than 70% compared to the previous year, according to new figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

China has been Australia's largest source of foreign direct investment for more than a decade, and the figures show a significant decline in investment in the past year. The ABS data indicates that Chinese investment fell by 70.2% in the year to March 31, 2023, compared to the previous year. This is a stark contrast to the previous year, when Chinese investment in Australia had grown by more than 20%.

The data also shows a significant decline in the number of Chinese investors in Australia. The number of Chinese investors in Australia fell by 50% in the year to March 31, 2023, compared to the previous year. This is a worrying trend for the Australian economy, which has long been dependent on Chinese investment.

The decline in Chinese investment in Australia is likely to have a significant impact on the Australian economy, which has long been dependent on Chinese investment. The data also shows a significant decline in the number of Chinese tourists in Australia, which is likely to have a further impact on the economy.

The Australian government has been working to diversify its investment base in recent years, but the figures show that Chinese investment remains a significant source of foreign direct investment for the country.

The figures also show that Chinese investment in Australia is likely to remain strong in the future, with the number of Chinese investors in Australia set to rise by 20% in the year to March 31, 2024.

The figures also show that Chinese investment in Australia is likely to remain strong in the future, with the number of Chinese investors in Australia set to rise by 20% in the year to March 31, 2024.
Meng returns to court amid signs Canada-China standoff may ease

Byline: CityNews

Canada's arrest of Huawei Technologies executive Meng Wanzhou for possible extradition to the U.S. two years ago has sparked a geopolitical tussle between the country and the world's largest economy. Until now, Meng Wanzhou has been living in relative seclusion in the Vancouver suburb of Richmond under house arrest, and the two nations have been engaged in a diplomatic war of words.

Meng's latest court challenge comes as the two countries continue to disagree on a variety of issues, including Huawei's 5G technology, trade disputes, and the arrest of Meng herself.

Meng Wanzhou, chief financial officer of Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd, applied for bail last week in a Canadian court and was granted bail earlier this month. The bail hearing is scheduled for May 27, 2020, and will be held via video conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meng's release has raised hopes among some members of the Canadian business community, who have been calling for her release for months. The Canadian government has said it will not extradite Meng to the U.S. and that it will not comment on the case.

However, the situation remains tense, with both countries continuing to abide by their respective laws and policies.

Top meat packer JBS to offer Covid vaccine to 8,500 US workers

Brewster

The world’s largest meat packer JBS USA and the Colorado-based company that’s supplied meat to the company since the 1990s have announced that they will be offering COVID-19 vaccines to their workers.

The company, which employs over 200,000 people worldwide, is hoping to do its part in the fight against the pandemic by providing the vaccines to its employees.

The move comes amid growing concerns about the spread of the virus in meat processing plants, which have been identified as hotspots.

"We are excited to be able to offer this vaccine to our employees," said President of JBS USA, Ed Basto. "We believe it is our responsibility to do our part in helping to control the spread of the virus and protect our employees and the communities in which we operate."
Sunak promises ‘fair’ plans to plug hole in UK finances

Bloomberg

Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak promised on Wednesday to plug a “dispiriting” hole in the UK’s public finances and if we don’t get off to a strong start early next year, it will cause significant problems from 2024,” he said. “This is a clear signal to the market that the UK government is serious about getting its finances back on track and that it is committed to implementing a robust and fair plan to achieve this goal.”

The chancellor’s comments came as the UK’s public finances were set to hit a record £150 billion deficit in the current fiscal year, according to estimates from the Office for National Statistics. However, Sunak said that this would be a “one-off” event and that the government would take urgent action to ensure that the deficit was brought under control.

Sunak revealed that the government would announce a package of measures to reduce the deficit over the next few weeks, which would include a range of tax increases and spending cuts. He also said that the government would continue to focus on economic growth and job creation, and would make sure that the measures announced were fair and progressive.

The chancellor’s comments came as he unveiled a new budget that would help to reduce the deficit and improve the UK’s public finances. The budget included a range of measures to boost the economy, including tax cuts for businesses and individuals, and increased spending on infrastructure and education.

The chancellor said that the government would continue to focus on economic growth and job creation, and would make sure that the measures announced were fair and progressive. He also said that the government would continue to focus on reducing the debt and improving the public finances, and that it would work closely with the private sector to ensure that the economy continued to grow.

UK takes stakes in 37 firms after Covid loans converted

Bloomberg

The UK government has taken stakes in 37 companies after converting their Covid-19 loans into equity to help them recover from the pandemic.

The transfers, which have been previously reported, include stakes in companies such as Fastjet and Redcar. The government has also taken a stake in a company that provides software for airlines and a company that makes solar panels.

The government has been using Covid-19 loans to help companies that have been hit by the pandemic. The loans were available to companies that had been hit by the pandemic and were used to cover losses and pay staff.

The government has said that it will sell its stakes in the companies to the private sector when it is appropriate. The government has also said that it will continue to help companies that are struggling as a result of the pandemic.
Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre (QICDR) has announced the launch of its judicial training programme for legal professionals in Qatar. The programme aims to empower legal professionals to achieve success, balance and wellbeing, both in the workplace and at home. Considered essential, the programme provides an improved understanding of the law, delivered by trained experts in the field, to enhance communication and enhanced workplace behaviors.

Open to lawyers, judges and legal professionals, the programme’s individualized approach aids participants to build their leadership and communication skills. On the programme, Fatimah Al-Ali, Legal Relations and Partner’s manager of the Qatar International Court, said: “The programme was designed through the collaboration of the Court, Mohamed Al Hammadi QC, Certified Litigation and Dispute Resolution, and Al-Durair Consultations. We are happy to collaborate with training international Court such as QICDR to enrich Training and deliver the utmost benefits of coaching to hardworking legal professionals in the country. Through individualized group coaching sessions with seasoned, professional coaches, participants will be trained in their careers and equipped with the necessary tools to overcome challenges, both in the workplace and at home, to purse success in their area of life. In line with QICDR’s commitment to the legal community in Qatar, Tawafaek aims to build a legal environment that supports the growth of legal professionals and reduce the risks associated with legal practice across all industries.”

According to JRE, Qatar’s real estate sector is set to improve in the wake of the new Real Estate Regulatory and Development Authority (RERA) law, the country’s new real estate policy, which would improve the investment climate for foreign investors.

JRE reports strong 2020 leasing, sales activity despite pandemic

Just had Qatar REI has reported strong 2020 leasing and sales in the country’s real estate market as activity returned to the pre-pandemic level. The company expects the real estate sector to start improving in the wake of the new Real Estate Regulatory and Development Authority (RERA) law, the country’s new real estate policy, which would improve the investment climate for foreign investors.

“We believe the market will improve soon after full recovery from the pandemic, and we are optimistic about the future of the real estate market in Qatar,” the company said in a statement. The company expects the real estate market to start improving in the wake of the new Real Estate Regulatory and Development Authority (RERA) law, the country’s new real estate policy, which would improve the investment climate for foreign investors.

QFMA issues rules for employees’ incentive shares purchase

Qatar Financial Market Authority (QFMA) has issued the rules for the purchase of incentive shares by the employees of the Authority. The rules provide a framework for the purchase of incentive shares by the employees of the Authority.

According to the new rules, the incentive shares shall be purchased by the employees of the Authority, provided they meet certain conditions. The rules are intended to provide a framework for the purchase of incentive shares by the employees of the Authority.

In his speech, Amr Al-Khalifa, QFMA’s CEO, said: “The purpose of these rules is to ensure a fair and transparent process of employees’ incentive shares purchase, which is in line with the Authority’s strategy to support the Authority’s employees, and ensure a fair and transparent process of employees’ incentive shares purchase.”

Global initiative to reduce plastic pellet, flake and powder loss to environment gains momentum in GCC

By Prateek John

Qatar’s national initiative to reduce plastic pellet, flake and powder loss to the environment is gaining momentum as a global initiative gains traction in the GCC region. The initiative was launched in Qatar in 2019, with the aim of reducing plastic pellet, flake and powder loss to the environment.

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The initiative is gaining traction as a result of several initiatives launched in the GCC region, including the Qatar National Initiative to Reduce Plastic Pollution and the GCC National Initiative to Reduce Plastic Pollution.

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