# PhillipCapital

# **United Overseas Bank Limited**

# Aggressive pursuit of deposits bites NIM

# SINGAPORE | BANKING | 1Q19 RESULTS

- 1Q19 revenue and PATMI were in line with our estimates, meeting 25% and 24% of our full-year forecasts respectively.
- NIM fell 5bps YoY and 1bps QoQ to 1.79% due to competitive loan repricing conditions and excess deposits gathered. LDR fell to 86.6% (4Q18: 88.2%).
- Robust loans growth of 12.2% YoY was led by a broad-based increase across all territories and industries.
- Trading income and gain from investment securities rose 38.9% YoY and 133.3% YoY, benefitting from a rebound in financial markets.
- Allowances for non-impaired assets rose in tandem with loan growth while asset quality remained resilient with NPL ratio at 1.5% (1Q18: 1.7%).
- Downgrade to ACCUMULATE with a lower target price of \$\$30.90 (previously \$\$32.00), due to recent share price movement. The lower target price was derived after raising our operating expense forecasts 5% higher, giving us an FY19e CIR of 44% (previously 42%).

Results at a glance

(SGD mn)	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)	Comments
Net interest income	1,587	1,470	8.0%	1,608	-1.3%	Strong loan growth of 12.2% YoY offset NIM compression of 5bps YoY to 1.79% .
Fees & Comm	479	517	-7.4%	467	2.6%	Fee income was dampened by lower wealth management and fund management fees as market sentiment was more subdued this quarter as compared to 1Q18.
Other Non Int Income	341	243	40.3%	141	141.8%	Trading income and gain from investment securities rose 38.9% YoY and 133.3% YoY due to a rebound in financial markets.
Total Revenue	2,407	2,230	7.9%	2,216	8.6%	
Expenses	1,073	987	8.7%	984	9.0%	Cost-to-income ratio (CIR) rose slightly to 44.6% (1Q18: 44.3%) due to higher staff costs and IT-related expenses.
Allowances	93	80	16.3%	128	-27.3%	Expected Credit Losses (ECL) for non-impaired assets rose in tandem with loan growth this quarter. NPL resilient at 1.5%.
PATMI	1,052	978	7.6%	916	14.8%	

Source: Company, PSR

# Positives

+ Loan growth performed better than expected at 12.2% YoY, led by a broad-based increase across all territories and industries. Housing loans grew 3.3% YoY, outpacing Singapore's housing loan growth of only 0.9% YoY in 1Q19. UOB's mortgage loan business is facing intensifying competition for refinancing and lesser new mortgage loan bookings due to a lower volume of property launches. Building and Construction loans registered a growth of 22.3% YoY (the highest in three years) due to the progressive drawdown on development project loan commitments made during the en-bloc fever phase last year. Property launches are seasonally weaker in the first half of the year, and customers should re-enter the market as en-bloc funds kick in this year. Hence, we expect mortgage loan growth to pick up in 2H19, and we pen in a higher FY19e loan growth estimate at 5.9% (previously 5.0%), in line with the mid-single-digit guidance.

**+ Other non-interest income surged 40.3% YoY.** Net trading income grew 38.9% YoY to S\$243mn due to a rebound in financial markets. Gains from investment securities rose 133.3% YoY to S\$28mn, recovering from 4Q18's loss of S\$59mn from market volatility.

+ Credit costs for impaired loans stable at 13 bps (1Q18: 12 bps). Overall credit costs rose 8bps YoY to 19bps due to higher ECL provided for non-impaired loans which grew in tandem with higher loan growth this quarter. We raise our credit costs to 20 bps from 16 bps in tandem with higher ECL for non-impaired loans, in line with guidance of 20-25 bps. Asset quality remained resilient with NPL ratio at 1.5% (1Q18: 1.7%).



StocksBnB.com

# 6 May 2019

ACCUMULATE	(Downgraded)
LAST TRADED PRICE	SGD 27.77
FORECAST DIV	SGD 1.23
TARGET PRICE	SGD 30.87
TOTAL RETURN	15.59%
COMPANY DATA	
<b>BLOOMBERG TICKER</b>	UOB SP
	1666

O/S SHARES (MN) :	1,666
MARKET CAP (USD mn/SGD mn):	33911/46258
52 - WK HI/LO (SGD) :	29.95 / 23.8
3M Average Daily T/O (mn) :	2.25

# MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS (%)

Wee Investments	8.01%
Wah Hin & Co Pte Ltd	5.16%
BlackRock Fund Advisors	2.27%
Vanguard Group Inc	2.18%

# PRICE PERFORMANCE (%)

	1M T H	ЗМ ТН	1Y R
COMPANY	8.2	9.9	(5.4)
STIRETURN	4.18	7.50	(2.43)

# PRICE VS. STI



Source: Bloomberg, PSR

# KEY FINANCIALS

Y/E Dec	F Y 17	F Y 18	FY 19 e	FY20e
Total Inc (SGD mn)	8,563	9,115	9,859	10,474
Op P rofit (SGD mn)	4,097	4,718 5,101		5,450
NPAT (SGD mn)	3,407	4,020	4,299	4,593
EPS (SGD)	1.94	2.35	2.47	2.58
PER, (X)	14.3	11.8	11.3	10.8
P/BV, (X)	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2
DPS (SGD)	1.00	1.20	1.23	1.29
ROE	10.1%	11.2%	11.4%	11.4%

Source: Bloomberg, Company, PSR

# Valuation Method:

Gordon Growth Model (COE: 9%, g: 3%)

tinmy@phillip.com.sg



# Negatives

- **1Q19 NIM fell 5bps YoY 1.79% due to competitive loan repricing conditions and excess deposits gathered.** As a result, net interest income dipped slightly by 1.3% QoQ. LDR fell to 86.6% (4Q18: 88.2%) as deposits grew faster than loans at 12.4% YoY. Deposits growth came mainly from Singapore (+12% YoY) and Greater China (+16% YoY). However, the majority of UOB's fixed deposits have a short tenure of 3 to 6 months. UOB might let some of the deposits run off in the next few quarters to reduce some of the excess deposits gathered. Blending in the effects of loan repricing and reducing excess deposits to lower the cost of funds, NIM should recover in the next few quarters. We maintain NIM for FY19e at 1.82%, in line with flat NIM guidance.

- Fee income fell 7.4% YoY to \$\$479mn. The contraction came mainly from a decline in fund management and wealth management fees by 23.5% YoY and 17.6% YoY respectively due to exceptionally buoyant market sentiments a year ago. However, wealth management fees rose 19.3% QoQ as market sentiments picked up since March this year. The wealth management business should continue to improve if the macroeconomic environment does not worsen.

# List of Abbreviations

WM – Wealth Management IBG – Institutional Banking Group CBG – Consumer Banking Group NII – Net Interest Income Non-II - Non-Interest Income NIM – Net Interest Margin ECL – Expected credit loss CIR – Cost to income ratio LDR – Loan to Deposit Ratio NPL – Non-performing Loans CASA - Current Account, Savings Account IB – Investment Banking O&G – Oil and Gas SP - specific provisions GP – general provisions AUM – Asset Under Management CIR - Cost-to-income ratio

# Table 1: UOB guidance vs PSR estimates for FY19e.

Assumptions	UOB	PSR	
NIM (%)	Flat at 1.82%	1.82%	
Loan growth (%)	Mid-single-digit	5.7%	
Cost-income ratio (%)	around 44%	44%	
Credit Cost (bps)	20 - 25 bps	15	
ROE (%)	12%	11.4%	
NPL ratio (%)	marginally above 1.5%	1.6%	

Source: Company, PSR

# **Investment Actions**

Downgrade to ACCUMULATE with a lower target price of \$\$30.90 (previously \$\$32.00),

due to recent share price movement. The lower target price was derived after raising our operating expense forecasts 5% higher; giving us an FY19e CIR of 44% (previously 42%), resulting in lower FY19e revenue growth of 8.1% instead of 11.3% previously.

Expect NIM to pick up with more aggressive loan repricing and prudent management of excess deposits. Despite softer loan growth expectations due to market headwinds, UOB's solid loan growth in 1Q19 sets a positive tone for earnings as the loan book undergoes progressive repricing. There are currently no material concerns about portfolio quality, and housing loans remain protected by prudent underwriting measures. UOB remains attractive with healthy FY19e dividend yield of 4.4%.

Valuation: Gordon Growth Model					
ltem	Description	Value			
R <sub>f</sub>	Risk-free rate	2.6%			
Е	Equity-risk premium	5.5%			
В	Beta	1.1			
COE	Cost of Equity	9.0%			
ROE	FY19e Return on Equity	11.4%			
g	Terminal growth rate	3%			
(ROE-g) (COE-g)	FY19e Target Price to Book	1.4			
	FY19e BVPS, S\$	22			
	FY19e Valuation, S\$	30.9			



Table 2: Growth in revenue					
SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Netinterestincome	1,587	1,470	8.0%	1,608	-1.3%
Net fee and comm inc	479	517	-7.4%	467	2.6%
Other non-interest inc	341	243	40.3%	141	141.8%
Total	2,407	2,230	7.9%	2,216	8.6%

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SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Credit card	106	99	7.1%	123	-13.8%
Fund management	52	68	-23.5%	60	-13.3%
Wealth management	136	165	-17.6%	114	19.3%
Loan-related	154	141	9.2%	121	27.3%
Service charges	39	36	8.3%	43	-9.3%
Trade-related	70	72	-2.8%	76	-7.9%
Other	12	20	-40.0%	14	-14.3%
Total	569	601	-5.3%	551	3.3%

Table 4: Other non-interest income

SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Net trading income	243	175	38.9%	118	105.9%
Otherincome	38	25	52.0%	52	-26.9%
Net gain/(loss) from inv. securities	28	12	133.3%	(59)	-147.5%
Dividend income	1	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Rental income	31	30	3.3%	29	6.9%
Total other non int inc	341	243	40.3%	141	141.8%

# Table 5: Loans by Industries

SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Tpt, storage & comms	10,795	9,235	16.9%	10,185	6.0%
Building and construction	67,102	54,883	22.3%	63,139	6.3%
Manufacturing	23,440	19,993	17.2%	21,112	11.0%
Financial institutions	23,138	19,303	19.9%	23,199	-0.3%
General commerce	33,658	31,307	7.5%	32,928	2.2%
Professionals & Pri inv	29,230	28,360	3.1%	29,288	-0.2%
Housing loans	68,740	66,545	3.3%	68,387	0.5%
Others	13,580	11,160	21.7%	13,469	0.8%
Total loans	269,683	240,786	12.0%	261,707	3.0%

#### Table 6: Loans by currencies

Tuble 0. Lound by currenties					
SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Singapore dollar	124,326	115,514	7.6%	123,347	0.8%
US dollar	52,632	46,402	13.4%	50,674	3.9%
Malaysian ringgit	25,532	24,976	2.2%	25,328	0.8%
Thai baht	16,441	14,473	13.6%	15,600	5.4%
Indonesian rupiah	5,445	4,769	14.2%	5,288	3.0%
Others	45,306	34,653	30.7%	41,471	9.2%
Total loans	269,682	240,787	12.0%	261,708	3.0%

# Table 7: Profit before tax by Business segments

SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Group Retail	471	466	1.1%	465	1.3%
Grp Wholesale	677	710	-4.6%	616	9.9%
Global Mkts and IM	80	60	33.3%	56	-42.9%
Others	29	(49)	-159.2%	(39)	-174.4%
Total NPBT	1,257	1,187	5.9%	1,098	14.5%

Table 8: Profit before tax by Ge	ographical segments				
SGD mn	1Q19	1Q18	YoY (%)	4Q18	QoQ (%)
Singapore	744	679	9.6%	734	1.4%
Malaysia	154	159	-3.1%	153	0.7%
Thailand	98	77	27.3%	65	50.8%
Indonesia	19	40	-52.5%	21	-9.5%
Greater China	121	118	2.5%	57	112.3%
Others	121	120	0.8%	75	61.3%
Total NPBT	1,257	1,193	5.4%	1,105	13.8%

Source (Table 2-8): Company, PSR

Strong loans growth of 12.2% YoY offset the 5bps contraction in NIM.

Wealth management and fund management fees declined YoY due to exceptionally buoyant market sentiments last year. However, market sentiments have returned, and investors are increasingly risk-on since March 2019.

Net trading income and net gain from investment securities rebounded after 4Q18 was dragged down by unrealised mark-tomarket on investment securities arising from market volatility and lower gains from the sale of investment securities.

Loans growth was fairly broad-based. Building and Construction, Manufacturing and Financial Institution loans sustained doubledigit loans growth.

The Group's LDR and Singapore dollar LDR remained healthy at 86.6% (1Q18: 88.2%) and 90.3% (1Q18: 93.5%) respectively.

*The Group Wholesale business continues to be the best-performing.* 

In 1Q19, Singapore and Greater China contributed 59% (1Q18: 57%) and 9.6% (1Q18: 10%) of total earnings respectively.



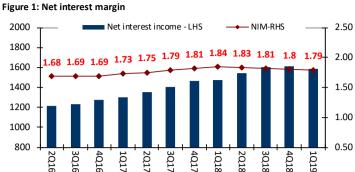


Figure 3: Efficiency ratio

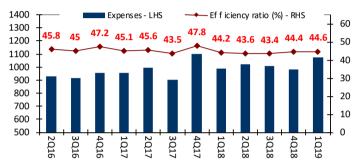
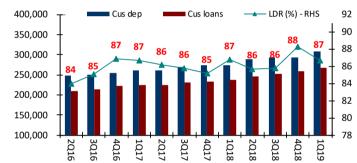
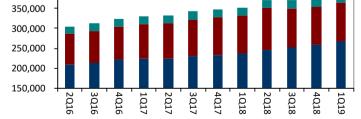


Figure 5: Deposits, Loans, LDR



# Figure 7: Growth in selected asset items

Loans to nonbank customers Cash equivalents Financial assets and investments 450,000 400,000



Source (Figure 1-8): Company, PSR

Figure 2: NonII/Total revenue

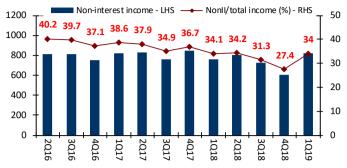


Figure 4: Net profit margin

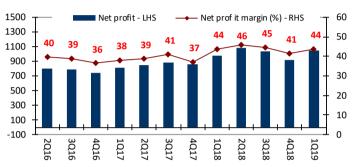
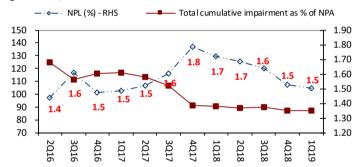
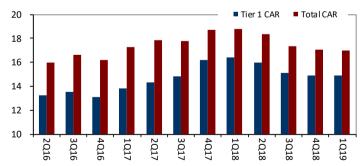
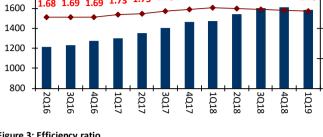


Figure 6: NPA, NPL











# Financials

Income Statement					
Y/E Dec, SGD mn	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19e	FY20e
Net Int Income	4,991	5,528	6,220	6,699	7,003
Fees and Commission	1,931	1,873	1,966	2,110	2,427
Other Non-int income	1,138	1,162	929	1,050	1,044
Total operating income	8,060	8,563	9,115	9,859	10,474
Operating expenses	3,697	3,739	4,004	4,355	4,577
Provisions	594	727	393	402	447
Operating profit	3,769	4,097	4,718	5,101	5,450
Associates & JVs	5	110	107	126	132
Profit Before Tax	3,774	4,207	4,825	5,227	5,582
Taxation	669	800	805	928	989
Profit After Tax	3,105	3,407	4,020	4,299	4,593
Non-controlling Interest	12	16	13	17	22
Net Income, reported	3,093	3,390	4,007	4,283	4,571
Net Income, adj.	3,093	3,391	4,007	4,283	4,571

Per share data					
Y/E Dec	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19e	FY20e
EPS, reported	1.82	1.94	2.35	2.47	2.58
EPS, adj.	1.82	1.94	2.35	2.47	2.58
DPS	0.75	1.00	1.20	1.23	1.29
BVPS (less pref shares)	18.82	20.37	21.31	22.41	23.42
Dividend Pay-out Ratio	41%	52%	51%	50%	50%

# Supplementary items

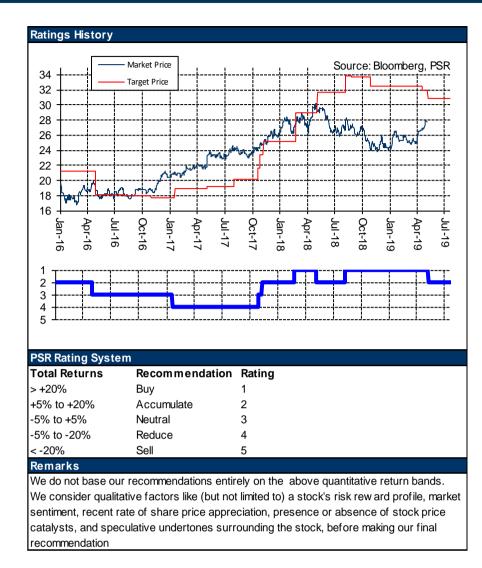
supplementary items					
Y/E Dec	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19e	FY20e
CET1 CAR	13.0%	14.7%	13.9%	14.2%	14.6%
Tier 1 CAR	13.1%	16.2%	14.9%	14.2%	14.6%
Total CAR	16.2%	18.7%	17.0%	16.2%	16.6%

Balance Sheet					
Y/E Dec, SGD mn	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19e	FY20e
Cash bal w central banks	24,322	26,625	25,252	34,865	39,867
Due from banks	40,033	52,181	50,800	49,587	52,744
Investment securities	11,640	11,273	13,553	12,208	12,235
Loans to non-bank cust	221,734	232,212	258,627	273,807	285,972
Others	42,299	36,301	39,861	43,671	42,630
Total Assets	340,028	358,592	388,093	414,139	433,447
Due to banks	11,855	11,440	13,801	13,173	13,288
Due to non-bank cust	255,314	272,765	293,186	320,704	336,604
Debts issued	26,143	25,178	30,606	26,927	27,162
Others	13,674	12,171	12,688	13,069	13,461
Total liabilities	306,986	321,554	350,281	373,872	390,515
Shareholder's equity	32,876	36,852	37,626	40,060	42,704
Non-controlling interest	169	187	190	207	228
Total Equity	33,045	37,039	37,816	40,266	42,932

Valuation Ratios					
Y/E Dec	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19e	FY20e
P/E (X), adj.	15.3	14.3	11.8	11.3	10.8
Р/В (Х)	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2
Dividend Yield	2.7%	3.6%	4.3%	4.4%	4.6%
Growth & Margins					
Growth					
Netinterestincome	1.3%	10.8%	12.5%	7.7%	4.5%
Non interest income	-1.7%	-1.1%	-4.6%	9.2%	9.8%
Pre provision op profit	0.1%	6.2%	6.4%	8.2%	6.2%
Operating income	-0.3%	8.7%	15.2%	8.1%	6.8%
Net income, reported	-3.6%	9.6%	18.2%	6.9%	6.7%
Margins					
Net interest margin	1.71%	1.77%	1.82%	1.82%	1.84%
Key Ratios					
ROE	10.1%	10.1%	11.2%	11.4%	11.4%
ROA	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%
RORWA	1.4%	1.7%	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%
Non-int/total income ratio	38.1%	35.4%	31.8%	32.1%	33.1%
Cost/income ratio	45.9%	43.7%	43.9%	44.2%	43.7%
Loan/deposit ratio	86.8%	85.1%	88.2%	85.4%	85.0%
NPL ratio	1.5%	1.8%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%

Source: Company, PSR







#### Head of Research

Paul Chew - paulchewkl@phillip.com.sg

Banking and Finance | Healthcare Tin Min Ying – tinmy@phillip.com.sg

# REITs

Natalie Ong - natalieongpf@phillip.com.sg

# US Equity

Edmund Xue – <u>edmundxuejj@phillip.com.sg</u>

# SINGAPORE

Phillip Securities Pte Ltd Raffles City Tower 250, North Bridge Road #06-00 Singapore 179101 Tel +65 6533 6001 Fax +65 6535 6631 Website: www.poems.com.sg

# JAPAN

Phillip Securities Japan, Ltd. 4-2 Nihonbashi Kabuto-cho Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0026 Tel +81-3 3666 2101 Fax +81-3 3666 6090 Website: www.phillip.co.jp

# THAILAND

Phillip Securities (Thailand) Public Co. Ltd 15th Floor, Vorawat Building, 849 Silom Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500 Thailand Tel +66-2 6351700 / 22680999 Fax +66-2 22680921 Website www.phillip.co.th

# UNITED STATES

Phillip Capital Inc 141 W Jackson Blvd Ste 3050 The Chicago Board of Trade Building Chicago, IL 60604 USA Tel +1-312 356 9000 Fax +1-312 356 9005 Website: www.phillipusa.com

#### INDIA

PhillipCapital (India) Private Limited No.1, 18th Floor, Urmi Estate 95, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg Lower Parel West, Mumbai 400-013 Maharashtra, India Tel: +91-22-2300 2999 / Fax: +91-22-2300 2969 Website: www.phillipcapital.in

# CAMBODIA Phillip Bank Plc

Ground Floor of B-Office Centre,#61-64, Norodom Blvd Corner Street 306,Sangkat Boeung Keng Kang 1, Khan Chamkamorn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia Tel: 855 (0) 7796 6151/855 (0) 1620 0769 Website: www.phillipbank.com.kh **Contact Information (Singapore Research Team)** 

Oil & Gas | Energy Chen Guangzhi - <u>chengz@phillip.com.sg</u>

**China/HK Equity** Zheng Jieyuan – <u>zhengjy@phillip.com.sg</u> Research Admin research@phillip.com.sg

Telco | Technology Alvin Chia - <u>alvinchiawy@phillip.com.sg</u>

**REITs (Commercial, Retail, Healthcare) | Property** Tara Wong - <u>tarawongsj@phillip.com.sg</u>

# Contact Information (Regional Member Companies) MALAYSIA Phillip Capital Management Sdn Bhd B-3-6 Block B Level 3 Megan Avenue II, No. 12, Jalan Yap Kwan Seng, 50450

Kuala Lumpur Tel +603 2162 8841 Fax +603 2166 5099 Website: <u>www.poems.com.my</u>

# INDONESIA PT Phillip Securities Indonesia ANZ Tower Level 23B, Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 33A Jakarta 10220 – Indonesia Tel +62-21 5790 0800 Fax +62-21 5790 0809 Website: www.phillip.co.id

# FRANCE

King & Shaxson Capital Limited 3rd Floor, 35 Rue de la Bienfaisance 75008 Paris France Tel +33-1 45633100 Fax +33-1 45636017 Website: www.kingandshaxson.com

# AUSTRALIA

Phillip Capital Limited Level 10, 330 Collins Street Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia Tel +61-03 8633 9803 Fax +61-03 8633 9899 Website: www.phillipcapital.com.au

# TURKEY

PhillipCapital Menkul Degerler Dr. Cemil Bengü Cad. Hak Is Merkezi No. 2 Kat. 6A Caglayan 34403 Istanbul, Turkey Tel: 0212 296 84 84 Fax: 0212 233 69 29 Website: www.phillipcapital.com.tr HONG KONG Phillip Securities (HK) Ltd 11/F United Centre 95 Queensway Hong Kong Tel +852 2277 6600 Fax +852 2868 5307 Websites: www.phillip.com.hk

### CHINA

Phillip Financial Advisory (Shanghai) Co Ltd No 550 Yan An East Road, Ocean Tower Unit 2318, Postal code 200001 Tel +86-21 5169 9200 Fax +86-21 6351 2940 Website: www.phillip.com.cn

# UNITED KINGDOM

King & Shaxson Capital Limited 6th Floor, Candlewick House, 120 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AS Tel +44-20 7426 5950 Fax +44-20 7626 1757 Website: www.kingandshaxson.com

# SRI LANKA

Asha Phillip Securities Limited No. 60, 5th Lane, Colombo 3, Sri Lanka Tel: (94) 11 2429 100 Fax: (94) 11 2429 199 Website: <u>www.ashaphillip.net</u>

# DUBAI

Phillip Futures DMCC Member of the Dubai Gold and Commodities Exchange (DGCX) Unit No 601, Plot No 58, White Crown Bldg, Sheikh Zayed Road, P.O.Box 212291 Dubai-UAE Tel: +971-4-3325052 / Fax: + 971-4-3328895



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