Monday, 20 January 2020

COMPANY RESULTS

MRCB-Quill Reit (MQREIT MK)

4Q19: On The Comeback Trail

MQREIT's 2019 core earnings were largely within expectations, accounting for 98% of our full-year forecast, not withstanding a non-cash asset impairment which had not been guided for. Core net earnings improved 5.4% qoq on the back of rental commencement from new tenants and higher occupancy at Wisma Technip. Earnings are set to improve as occupancy at Platinum Sentral and Menara Shell further recover. Maintain BUY and target price of RM1.13.

4Q19 RESULTS

| | 4Q19 | 3Q19 | qoq | yoy | 2019 | yoy |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Year to 31 Dec (RMm) | | | % chg | % chg | | % chg |
| Gross revenue | 42.0 | 39.9 | 5.2 | (1.6) | 162.1 | (6.5) |
| Operating expenses | (10.5) | (9.7) | 7.7 | 4.8 | (39.2) | (1.2) |
| Net property income | 31.5 | 30.2 | 4.3 | (3.6) | 122.8 | (8.1) |
| Finance cost | (10.3) | (9.7) | 5.4 | (5.7) | (39.6) | (2.5) |
| Core Net Profit | 18.6 | 17.6 | 5.4 | (5.2) | 72.1 | (12.6) |
| EPU (sen) | 1.7 | 1.6 | 5.4 | (5.2) | 6.7 | (12.9) |
| DPU (sen) | 3.4 | 0.0 | n.a. | (12.5) | 6.8 | (15.8) |

Source: MRCB-Quill Reit, UOB Kay Hian

RESULTS

- Largely within expectations. MRCB-Quill REIT (MQREIT) reported 4Q19 revenue of RM42.0m (+5.2% qoq, -1.6% yoy) and core net profit of RM18.6m (+5.4% qoq, -5.2% yoy). Core numbers exclude unrealised revaluation loss of RM37m (with the bulk of it from Platinum Sentral). Full-year 2019 core net profit of RM72.1m (-12.6 yoy) accounts for 98% and 99% of our and consensus' full-year forecasts respectively.
- 3.37 sen dividend declared during the quarter. This brings full-year dividend to 6.80 sen (-15.8% yoy), representing a payout ratio of 101% and an annual yield of 6.8%, in line with our expectations. Note that dividends were unaffected by the non-cash impairment.

KEY FINANCIALS

| Year to 31 Dec (RMm) | 2018 | 2019 | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F |
|-------------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Net turnover | 173 | 162 | 171 | 174 | 176 |
| EBITDA | 119 | 108 | 117 | 120 | 120 |
| Operating profit | 119 | 108 | 117 | 120 | 120 |
| Net profit (rep./act.) | 73 | 29 | 80 | 83 | 85 |
| Net profit (adj.) | 83 | 72 | 80 | 83 | 85 |
| EPS (sen) | 7.7 | 6.7 | 7.5 | 7.7 | 8.0 |
| PE (x) | 13.0 | 14.9 | 13.4 | 13.0 | 12.6 |
| P/B (x) | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 15.5 | 17.0 | 15.7 | 15.4 | 15.3 |
| Dividend yield (%) | 8.1 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 7.8 |
| Net margin (core) (%) | 42.2 | 18.0 | 46.6 | 47.4 | 48.5 |
| Net debt/(cash) to equity (%) | 56.0 | 58.4 | 57.9 | 57.4 | 55.9 |
| Interest cover (x) | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.5 |
| ROE (%) | 5.3 | 2.2 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 6.4 |
| Consensus net profit | - | - | 76 | 77 | - |
| UOBKH/Consensus (x) | - | - | 1.05 | 1.07 | - |

Source: MRCB-Quill Reit, Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

BUY

(Maintained)

| Share Price | RM1.00 |
|--------------|--------|
| Target Price | RM1.13 |
| Upside | +13.0% |

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

MRCB-Quill REIT invests in office and retail buildings, business/technology parks, data processing centres and car park facilities primarily in Malaysia

STOCK DATA

| GICS sector | Real Estate |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Bloomberg ticker: | MQREIT MK |
| Shares issued (m): | 1,071.8 |
| Market cap (RMm): | 1,071.8 |
| Market cap (US\$m): | 264.3 |
| 3-mth avg daily t'over (US\$m): | 0.0 |

Price Performance (%)

| 52-week h | nigh/low | | RM1.12/ | RM0.990 |
|-----------|---------------|-------|---------|---------|
| 1mth | 3mth | 6mth | 1yr | YTD |
| 0.5 | 0.0 | (6.5) | (10.7) | 0.0 |
| Major SI | hareholder | s | | % |
| Malaysian | Resources (| Corp | | 27.8 |
| Employee | s Provident F | und | | 12.1 |
| Capitalan | d Ltd | | | 10.9 |
| FY20 NA\ | //Share (RM) | | | 1.24 |
| FY20 Net | Deht/Share (| RM) | | 0.72 |

PRICE CHART



Source: Bloomberg

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STOCK IMPACT

- Net profit improved 5.4% qoq, mainly due to commencement of rent from new tenants at Platinum Sentral and higher occupancy at Wisma Technip (currently 90% vs 75% in 3Q19). 2019 net profit declined 12.6% yoy, due to: a) lower revenue from Platinum Sentral, QB5 and Wisma Technip, and b) absence of income from QB8-DHL XPJ which was sold in Apr 18. We expect earnings to continue to improve on the back of higher occupancy at Menara Shell and Platinum Sentral.
- Occupancy rate to continue to improve. On a portfolio basis, occupancy rate inched up to 90% (3Q19: 89%, 4Q18: 93%), well above the average of 78% in 2018 for office buildings in the Kuala Lumpur. MQREIT'S WALE is 4.9 years. Total lease for renewal for 2019 and 2020 are 19% and 18% of total NLA respectively. MQREIT successfully renewed 92% of leases due in 2019. We forecast occupancy for Platinum Sentral and Menara Shell to rise to 90% and 96% respectively for 2020 (currently 84% and 95% respectively). Wisma Technip is currently at 90% and we expect this level to be maintained for 2020.
- **Gearing at 37.7%.** MQREIT's current gearing ratio remains healthy (on par with peers), which allows it to tap into debt and equity markets for future acquisitions.

EARNINGS REVISION/RISK

 No changes. We have forecasted 10% growth for 2020 on the back of improvement in occupancy for Wisma Technip, Platinum Sentral and Menara Shell. We introduce 2022 net profit forecast of RM85m.

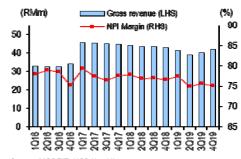
VALUATION/RECOMMENDATION

Maintain BUY and target price of RM1.13, based on a dividend discount model (required rate of return: 6.6%, terminal growth: 1.3%) and represents an implied dividend yield of 6.6%. We expect MQREIT to claw back its 4.8% share price decline in 2019 (it sorely underperformed the REIT sector which rose about 11% in 2019) as valuations rerate to reflect its sustainable high dividend yields of >7% for 2020-22, backed by its property portfolio's improving occupancy.

SHARE PRICE CATALYST

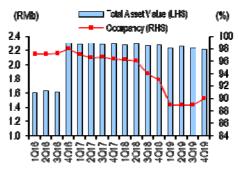
- High dividend yield to appeal more in the current low interest rate environment.
- Inorganic growth arising from acquisitions.

REVENUE AND NPI MARGIN



Source: MQREIT, UOB Kay Hian

TOTAL ASSET VALUE AND OCCUPANCY RATE



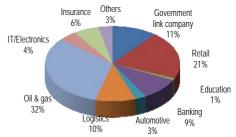
Source: MQREIT, UOB Kay Hian

GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSIFICATION



Source: MQREIT, UOB Kay Hian

TENANCY MIX



Source: MQREIT, UOB Kay Hian

FORECAST ASSUMPTIONS - OCCUPANCY

| Property | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------|------|------|------|
| Platinum Sentral | 90% | 90% | 90% |
| Menara Shell | 96% | 98% | 98% |
| Wisma Technip | 90% | 90% | 90% |

Source: UOB Kay Hian



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| PROFIT & LOSS | | | | | BALANCE SHEET | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Year to 31 Dec (RMm) | 2019 | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F | Year to 31 Dec (RMm) | 2019 | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F |
| Net turnover | 162 | 171 | 174 | 176 | Fixed assets | 2,143 | 2,145 | 2,147 | 2,149 |
| EBITDA | 108 | 117 | 120 | 120 | Other LT assets | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Deprec. & amort. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Cash/ST investment | 63 | 88 | 114 | 104 |
| EBIT | 108 | 117 | 120 | 120 | Other current assets | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Net interest income/(expense) | (36) | (37) | (37) | (35) | Total assets | 2,214 | 2,241 | 2,269 | 2,261 |
| Pre-tax profit | 35 | 80 | 83 | 85 | ST debt | 333 | 318 | 303 | 273 |
| Tax | (6) | 0 | 0 | 0 | Other current liabilities | 21 | 27 | 33 | 53 |
| Net profit | 29 | 80 | 83 | 85 | LT debt | 503 | 538 | 573 | 573 |
| Net profit (adj.) | 72 | 80 | 83 | 85 | Other LT liabilities | 33 | 33 | 33 | 33 |
| | | | | | Shareholders' equity | 1,323 | 1,325 | 1,327 | 1,328 |
| | | | | | Total liabilities & equity | 2,214 | 2,241 | 2,269 | 2,261 |
| CASH FLOW | | | | | KEY METRICS | | | | |
| Year to 31 Dec (RMm) | 2019 | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F | Year to 31 Dec (%) | 2019 | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F |
| Operating | 113 | 120 | 124 | 125 | Profitability | | | | |
| Pre-tax profit | 35 | 80 | 83 | 85 | EBITDA margin | 66.9 | 68.4 | 68.9 | 68.3 |
| Deprec. & amort. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Pre-tax margin | 21.8 | 46.6 | 47.4 | 48.5 |
| Other operating cashflows | 77 | 40 | 41 | 40 | Net margin | 18.0 | 46.6 | 47.4 | 48.5 |
| Investing | 0 | (2) | (2) | (2) | ROA | 1.3 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Capex (growth) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | ROE | 2.2 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 6.4 |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Others | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Growth | | | | |
| Financing | (136) | (93) | (96) | (134) | Turnover | (6.5) | 5.6 | 1.7 | 1.0 |
| Distribution to unitholders | (78) | (78) | (81) | (84) | EBITDA | (8.7) | 7.9 | 2.4 | 0.2 |
| Issue of shares | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Pre-tax profit | (55.4) | 125.6 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Proceeds from borrowings | 35 | 50 | 50 | 30 | Net profit | (60.2) | 174.0 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Loan repayment | (54) | (15) | (15) | (30) | Net profit (adj.) | (12.6) | 10.7 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Others/interest paid | (38) | (50) | (50) | (50) | | | 10.7 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Net cash inflow (outflow) | (23) | 25 | 26 | (10) | | | | | |
| Beginning cash & cash equivalent | 86 | 63 | 88 | 114 | Leverage | | | | |
| Changes due to forex impact | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Debt to total capital | 38.7 | 39.2 | 39.8 | 38.9 |
| Ending cash & cash equivalent | 63 | 88 | 114 | 104 | Debt to equity | 63.1 | 64.6 | 66.0 | 63.7 |
| | | | | | Net debt/(cash) to equity | 58.4 | 57.9 | 57.4 | 55.9 |
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