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2Q16 Malaysia Economic Outlook

"To Embrace Slower Growth"

Malaysia Economic Forecast

	2012	2013	2014	2015F	2016F
BNM	5.6%	4.7%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%-4.5%
MoF					4.0%-4.5%
MIER					4.5%
Bloomberg Consensus					4.3%
M&A Securities					4.3%

Source: Various, M&A Securities

Positive catalysts:

- 1) 2016 economic growth will still be good, albeit slower (2015: 5.0%; 2016F: 4.3%)
- 2) GST to shore up help fiscal revenue
- 3) Steady domestic demand
- 4) Undervalued Ringgit; capital inflow to return
- 5) Not too vulnerable thanks to steady current account surplus
- 6) A fresh round of SRP; weak global commodity prices allow that
- 7) Steady export to assist growth

Negative catalysts:

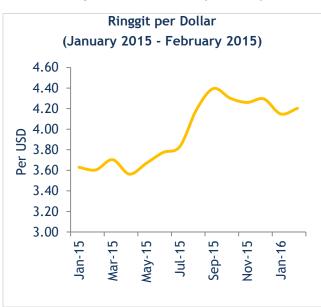
- 1) Limited policy space
- 2) Sluggish commodity prices; fiscal position could suffer
- 3) Financial instability; eminent downside risk on Ringgit

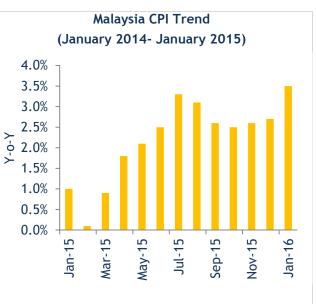
Basing on BNM's growth projection 4.0%-4.5%, we think that Malaysia's growth projection is still enviable compared to advanced economies like US (2016F: 2.6%), Japan (2016F: 1.0%) and Eurozone (2016F: 1.7%). Nonetheless, there is an emergence of new downside risks to Malaysia, as in the dwindling demand for oil and oil related products due to the struggling advanced nations economies. Added to that, our fiscal spending could be at teeters due to the weak oil price. Note that Malaysia fiscal budget earlier expected oil price to average at USD48 per barrel but has been trading at a high range of USD30 per barrel. Hence, the government has recalibrated its 2016 budget. Thankfully, 2016 will be the full year of GST collection that will be enough to support reducing oil and tax revenue for the year. Therefore, the GDP projection by BNM is still intact.

At this stage, we think that export will also help the economy given the off tangent Ringgit. Export momentum could be the savior due to the challenges face by private investment and consumption. Nonetheless, the prospect of US adjusting its interest rate will continue to be negative for Malaysia's financial market as we think that prospects will lead to protracted volatility in local financial markets. Therefore, 2016 will continue to be challenging year. Above all, we don't think that the US Federal Funds rate adjustment will reach its normalisation level of 5% anytime soon. Hence, the uncertainty will continue in the foreseeable future. Note that weak currency is not limited to Malaysia but also impacting almost all of emerging economies particularly commodity driven nations

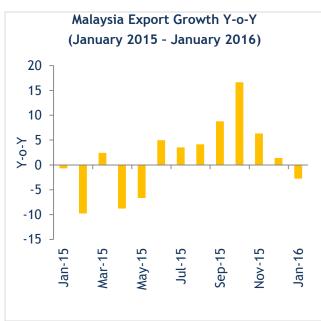
like Russia, Brazil, Venezuela and Indonesia. Therefore, we think that Ringgit will reverse its downward trend once the capital outflow returns to the region or at least back into EMEs. In sum, we think that Ringgit may have reached its bottom and poise for a reversal. We have Ringgit fair value of RM3.75 per Dollar.

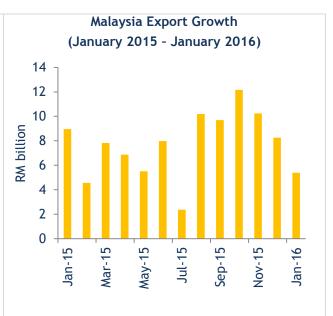
Malaysia will also benefit from a boom in infrastructure spending as the government is planning to spend up to RM120 billion to improve the railway infrastructure network. Mammoth projects like KVMRT2 and KVMRT3 along with LRT extension and some new high ways will get a kick start. That will be among the catalysts for Malaysian economy. At this stage, we think that domestic economy, as in private investment and consumption, will continue to support the economy, Hence, risks to growth is limited at this juncture unless oil price stays at the bottom for too low and too long.





Source: Bloomberg, M&A Securities





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M&A Securities

STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

BUY Share price is expected to be $\geq +10\%$ over the next 12 months.

TRADING BUY Share price is expected to be $\geq +10\%$ within 3-months due to positive newsflow. HOLD Share price is expected to be between -10% and +10% over the next 12 months.

SELL Share price is expected to be \geq -10% over the next 12 months.

SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

OVERWEIGHT The sector is expected to outperform the FBM KLCI over the next 12 months.

NEUTRAL The sector is expected to perform in line with the FBM KLCI over the next 12 months.

UNDERWEIGHT The sector is expected to underperform the FBM KLCI over the next 12 months.

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