China / Hong Kong Company Update

China Merchants Bank

Bloomberg: 3968 HK EQUITY | 600036 CH Equity | Reuters: 3968.HK | 600036.SS

Refer to important disclosures at the end of this report

DBS Group Research . Equity

22 Apr 2022

H: BUY (Reinstating coverage)

Last Traded Price (H) (21 Apr 2022):HK\$50.80(HSI: 20,682) Price Target 12-mth (H):HK\$79.00 (55.5% upside)

A: BUY (Reinstating coverage)

Last Traded Price (A) (21 Apr 2022):RMB41.28(CSI300 Index : 3.996)

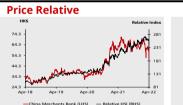
Price Target 12-mth (A):RMB67.40 (63.3% upside)

Analyst

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What's New

- Expect management service fee to expand by c.20% CAGR in FY22-24F led by its extensive wealth management strategy
- Asset quality to remain resilient on optimized loan structure and upgraded risk management procedures
- Expect less impact on NIM with its strong retail arm
- Reinstate coverage with BUY and TP at HK\$ 79





Forecasts and Valuation (H Shares)

FY Dec (RMB m)	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Pre-prov. Profit	210,498	237,288	262,876	296,010
Pre-prov. Profit Gth (%)	14	13	11	13
Pretax Profit	148,173	171,615	192,988	222,556
Net Profit	116,309	135,281	152,579	176,510
EPS (RMB) FPS (HK\$)	4.61 5.67	5.36	6.05 7.44	7.00 8.61
FPS (TK3)	22	6.60 16	7. 44 13	16
PF (X)	9.0	7.7	6.8	5.9
DPS (HK\$)	1.87	2.18	2.46	2.84
Div Yield (%)	3.7	4.3	4.8	5.6
BV Per Share (HK\$)	31.26	40.70	46.35	52.92
P/Book Value (x)	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.0
ROAE (%)	18.9	18.3	17.1	17.3
ROAE (ex- exceptional (%)	18.9	18.3	17.1	17.3
ROA (%)	1.32	1.40	1.44	1.52
Earnings Rev (%): Consensus EPS (RMB)		New 5.30	New 6.10	New 7.06
Other Broker Recs:		B:23	S:3	H:3

Source of all data on this page: Company, DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited ("DBS HK"), Thomson Reuters

Focus on enhancing value

Investment Thesis

Extensive wealth management to add further value. We expect CMB to maintain its leading position in wealth management with 20% fee income CAGR in FY22-24F driven by its capability to consolidate investment banking, commercial banking, private banking, and technology into its extensive wealth management system.

Benign asset quality. We expect NPL ratio to remain at a low level in FY22-24F vs 0.91% in FY21, supported by its strategy to 1) optimize client and loan structure; 2) expand its loans growth scale; and 3) further upgrade risk management process.

Prudent risk profile. The coverage ratio reached 483% in FY21, the highest within our China bank coverage. The risk exposure to property has dropped by c.Rmb 90bn in FY21.

Valuation:

We reinstate coverage with TP at HK\$ 79. Our valuation is based on DDM methodology, assuming 13% COE, 6% terminal growth, and 16% ROE. This implies 1.9x FY22F P/BV and 12x FY22F PE, which is justified given its earnings CAGR of 14.2% in FY22-24F.

Where we differ:

We are optimistic on its net interest income growth in FY22-24F, given its strong position in retail banking. We expect NIM to drop by only 0-3bps NIM in FY22-24F from 2.48% in FY21, as CMB has demonstrated its capability to get low-costs deposits from its retail franchise and free cash in WM business.

Key Risks to Our View:

Deterioration in asset quality, slowdown in China's economy, and tighter measures on WMPs, previous successful strategy cannot be fully executed with change of key senior management

At A Glance

4,591
20,629
18
1,270,895 / 162,057
15.9
7.6
6.1
5.6
5.5
10.4
7.2
82.4
144.73







Company Background

Founded in 1987 and headquartered in Shenzhen, CMB has a leading retail franchise and offers diversified wholesale and retail finance services. It was listed on the SSE in April 2002 and on the HKEX in September 2006. At end of FY21, CMB's total assets amounted to Rmb9.3tr, while gross loans and total deposits stood at Rmb5.6tr and Rmb6.4tr, respectively.

Historical PE and PB band

Forward PE band (x) (x) 12.9 11.9 10.9 9.9 Avg: 9x -1sd: 7.8x -2sd: 6.6x Apr-18 Apr-19 Apr-20 Apr-21

(x) 2.7 2.5 +2sd: 2.32x 2.3 2.1 1.9 1.7 Avg: 1.68x 1.5 1sd: 1.36x 1.3 1.1 -2sd: 1.05x 0.9 Apr-21

PB band (x)

Source: Thomson Reuters, DBS HK



Key Assumptions

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
NIM (%)	2.49	2.48	2.45	2.45	2.48
Loan growth (%)	12	11	9	8	9
Fee growth (%)	11	19	15	15	13
Cost-to-income (%)	35.8	35.7	35.0	35.1	34.4
Credit cost (%)	1.36	1.24	1.20	1.18	1.15
Customer Deposits Growth (%) Growth (%)	16	13	9	9	9
Yld. On Earnings Assets (%)	4.16	3.95	3.92	3.94	3.96
Avg Cost Of Funds (%) Source: Company, DBS HK	1.73	1.59	1.61	1.63	1.64

Income Statement (RMB m)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Net Interest Income	185,031	203,919	223,124	243,335	269,750
Non-Interest Income	102,367	123,458	141,792	161,461	181,313
Operating Income	287,398	327,377	364,916	404,796	451,063
Operating Expenses	(102,814)	(116,879)	(127,628)	(141,919)	(155,053)
Pre-provision Profit	184,584	210,498	237,288	262,876	296,010
Provisions	(64,871)	(65,962)	(69,885)	(74,626)	(78,916)
Associates	2,727	3,637	4,212	4,737	5,463
Exceptionals	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	122,440	148,173	171,615	192,988	222,556
Taxation	(24,481)	(27,339)	(31,664)	(35,608)	(41,063)
Minority Interests	(617)	(912)	(1,056)	(1,188)	(1,370)
Preference Dividend	(1,651)	(3,613)	(3,613)	(3,613)	(3,613)
Net Profit	95,691	116,309	135,281	152,579	176,510
Net Profit bef Except	95,691	116,309	135,281	152,579	176,510
Growth (%)					
Net Interest Income Gth	6.90	10.21	9.42	9.06	10.86
Net Profit Gth	4.93	21.55	16.31	12.79	15.68
Margins, Costs & Efficiency	(%)				
Spread	2.43	2.37	2.32	2.31	2.32
Net Interest Margin	2.51	2.47	2.44	2.44	2.47
Cost-to-Income Ratio	35.8	35.7	35.0	35.1	34.4
Business Mix (%)					
Net Int. Inc / Opg Inc.	64.4	62.3	61.1	60.1	59.8
Non-Int. Inc / Opg inc.	35.6	37.7	38.9	39.9	40.2
Fee Inc / Opg Income	27.7	28.8	29.7	30.8	31.2
Oth Non-Int Inc/Opg Inc	8.0	8.9	9.1	9.1	8.9
Profitability (%)					
ROAE Pre Ex.	16.4	18.9	18.3	17.1	17.3
ROAE	16.4	18.9	18.3	17.1	17.3
ROA Pre Ex.	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
ROA	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5
Source: Company, DBS HK					





Quarterly Income Statement (RMB m)

FY Dec	402020	102021	202021	302021	402021
Net Interest Income	46,496	49,524	49,817	51,297	53,281
Non-Interest Income	21,467	34,666	32,638	30,785	25,369
Operating Income	67,963	84,190	82,455	82,082	78,650
Operating Expenses	(31,952)	(24,206)	(26,406)	(27,943)	(38,324)
Pre-Provision Profit	36,011	59,984	56,049	54,139	40,326
Provisions	(12,350)	(20,545)	(21,350)	(14,379)	(9,688)
Associates	874	654	1,531	573	879
Exceptionals	0	0	0	0	0
Pretax Profit	24,535	40,093	36,230	40,333	31,517
Taxation	(3,646)	(7,844)	(6,831)	(7,625)	(5,039)
Minority Interests	(150)	(234)	(264)	(243)	(171)
Net Profit	19,088	32,015	29,135	32,465	22,694
Growth (%)					
Net Interest Income Gth	11.1	8.2	10.4	7.6	14.6
Net Profit Gth	36.8	15.2	32.5	21.1	18.9

Source: Company, DBS HK

Interim Income Statement (RMB m)

FY Dec	2H2019	1H2020	2H2020	1H2021	2H2021
Net Interest Income	85,683	90,873	94,158	99,341	104,578
Non-Interest Income	44,752	56,108	46,259	67,304	56,154
Operating Income	130,435	146,981	140,417	166,645	160,732
Operating Expenses	(51,096)	(44,882)	(57,932)	(50,612)	(66,267)
Pre-Provision Profit	79,339	102,099	82,485	116,033	94,465
Provisions	(28,002)	(40,443)	(24,428)	(41,895)	(24,067)
Associates	922	1,182	1,545	2,185	1,452
Exceptionals	0	0	0	0	0
Pretax Profit	52,259	62,838	59,602	76,323	71,850
Taxation	(9,694)	(12,760)	(11,721)	(14,675)	(12,664)
Minority Interests	(310)	(290)	(327)	(498)	(414)
Net Profit	40,585	49,788	45,903	61,150	55,159
Growth (%)					
Net Interest Income Gth	2.8	4.0	9.9	9.3	11.1
Net Profit Gth	19.1	(1.6)	13.1	22.8	20.2

Source: Company, DBS HK



Balance Sheet (RMB m)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Cash/Bank Balance	538,446	567,208	417,589	455,172	496,138
Government Securities	0	0	0	0	0
Inter Bank Assets	616,516	799,372	919,278	965,242	1,013,504
Total Net Loans & Advs.	4,804,361	5,335,391	5,780,441	6,253,763	6,772,444
Investment	1,572,972	1,828,874	2,103,205	2,418,686	2,781,489
Associates	14,922	23,654	23,654	23,654	23,654
Fixed Assets	69,776	80,393	92,625	106,719	122,957
Goodwill	19,665	18,756	18,756	18,756	18,756
Other Assets	724,790	595,373	763,309	844,752	936,872
Total Assets	8,361,448	9,249,021	10,118,857	11,086,744	12,165,813
Customer Deposits	5,664,135	6,385,154	6,959,818	7,586,201	8,268,960
Inter Bank Deposits	1,341,468	1,241,315	1,340,620	1,447,870	1,563,699
Debts/Borrowings	325,677	433,826	457,229	481,974	508,143
Others	299,814	323,045	395,630	488,317	607,044
Minorities	6,604	6,936	4,060	4,903	5,884
Shareholders' Funds	723,750	858,745	961,500	1,077,479	1,212,083
Total Liab& S/H's Funds	8,361,448	9,249,021	10,118,857	11,086,744	12,165,813

Source: Company, DBS HK

Financial Stability Measures (%)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Balance Sheet Structure					
Loan-to-Deposit Ratio	89.0	87.4	87.2	86.8	86.4
Net Loans / Total Assets	57.5	57.7	57.1	56.4	55.7
Investment / Total Assets	18.8	19.8	20.8	21.8	22.9
Cust . Dep./Int. Bear. Liab.	76.1	77.1	78.5	78.9	79.3
Interbank Dep / Int. Bear.	17.5	17.6	15.9	15.7	15.5
Asset Quality					
NPL / Total Gross Loans	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
NPL / Total Assets	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Loan Loss Reserve Coverage	437.7	483.9	522.7	561.1	586.0
Provision Charge-Off Rate	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Capital Strength					
Total CAR	16.5	17.6	18.3	18.8	19.3
Tier-1 CAR	12.3	12.8	13.8	14.5	15.3
Source: Company, DBS HK					



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BUY (>15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, >10% for large caps)

HOLD (-10% to +15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, -10% to +10% for large caps)

FULLY VALUED (negative total return, i.e., > -10% over the next 12 months)

SELL (negative total return of > -20% over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

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