

Hong Kong

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 39	Hold 1	Sell 0
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Current price:	HK\$20.95
Target price:	HK\$35.70
Previous target:	HK\$43.00
Up/downside:	70.4%
CGI / Consensus:	-5.7%
Reuters:	2319.HK
Bloomberg:	2319 HK
Market cap:	US\$10,573m
	HK\$82,444m
Average daily turnover:	US\$29.49m
	HK\$230.5m
Current shares o/s:	3,951m
Free float:	68.7%
*Source: Bloomberg	

Key changes in this note

- > FY23F EPS decreased by 9.2%.
- FY24F EPS decreased by 8.8%. >
- > FY25F EPS decreased by 8.7%.



		Source.	biooniberg
Price performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
Absolute (%)	-14.5	-21.4	-39.5
Relative (%)	-9.8	-14.1	-25
Major shareholders			% held
COFCO			16.3
Danone			9.9
Arla			5.3

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China Mengniu Dairy

Positive margin outlook in 2024F

- We attended Mengniu's global partner conference on 17 Dec 2023.
- In an analyst meeting during the event, Mengniu retained its guidance of 30-50bp
- FY23F OPM expansion, driven by a better product mix and lower raw milk costs. Management reiterated its mid- to high-single digit yoy revenue growth guidance for FY23F (including the consolidation of Milkground).
- Reiterate Add as we believe Mengniu has further room to improve its margins. We lower our forecasts for FY23-25F and derive a lower DCF-based TP of HK\$35.7.

FY23F results likely to reach low end of management's guidance

Excluding the consolidation of Milkground (consolidated end-FY22), Mengniu guided for organic revenue growth of low-single digits in FY23F, instead of mid-single digit growth it guided in the interim results conference, due to weaker-than-expected sales during the Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day holiday (29 Sep-6 Oct). Including the consolidation of Milkground, it expects FY23F revenue growth to reach mid- to high-single digits. By category, Mengniu expects its high-end UHT brands such as Milk Deluxe to maintain double-digit sales growth in FY23F, while its basic white milk sales grow at a high-single digit rate. It expects sales of its milk beverage products to improve in FY23F, with 'Fruit Milk Drink' and 'Suan Suan Ru' still posting positive sales growth. It guided for sales of room-temperature yogurt products to stay weak, with a 10%+ decline yoy in FY23F, but sales of chilled yogurt products to improve yoy in FY23F. So far, its sales growth of ice cream has slowed down hoh in 2H23F, but management still expects yoy positive sales growth for FY23F. Sales of its ice cream overseas remained solid and it expects 20% growth for FY23F. We lower our FY23F revenue growth forecast to 6% (7.5% previously), factoring in the lower-than-expected sales over the Mid-Autumn Festival and National Day holiday, and likely no uplift from pre-Chinese New Year (CNY) purchases given the later CNY in 2024 at 10 Feb vs. 21 Jan in 2023.

Lower raw milk costs benefiting margins in FY23-24F

Management said in the analyst meeting that its raw milk cost may decline a further 3-5% in FY24F due to the oversupply of raw milk in China. Management also maintains its OPM guidance of 30-50bp expansion for FY23F. We expect Mengniu's overall adjusted FY23F OPM to reach 6.2% (1H23: 6.4%, 2H23F: 6.1%), up 0.3% pt yoy. For FY24-25F, management targets to expand its OPM by 30-50bp p.a., driven by margin expansion through lower raw milk costs and a favourable product mix.

Inventory impairment to impact net profit in 2H23F

Management said in the analyst meeting that due to the weak dairy demand in FY23, the company incurred a non-material inventory impairment which it expects to impact the net profit in 2H23F. Starting from 2Q23, it had to sell some of its milk powder (converted from liquid milk for better storage) at a lower price to digest its excess milk powder inventory, which caused a non-material impact to its net profit. We project net profit of Rmb55.5bn for FY23F, up 4.6% yoy (1H23: -19.5%; 2H23F: 63%), factoring in an inventory impairment loss of Rmb400m for FY23F.

Reiterate Add with a lower DCF-based TP of HK\$35.7

We lower our TP to HK\$35.7 as we cut our FY23-25F EPS forecasts by 8.7-9.2% to reflect a weak net profit. We reiterate Add, as we believe Mengniu has room to improve its margins in over the next 3-5 years, driven by a favourable product mix and improved operating efficiency. Re-rating catalysts include stronger topline growth in 1H24F. Downside risks include 1) higher-than-expected raw material costs, and 2) weak macro, which would impact the demand for its dairy products. Our TP is derived from a DCF valuation with 8.8% WACC and a 3% terminal growth rate.

Financial Summary	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Revenue (Rmbm)	88,141	92,593	98,138	104,211	112,715
Operating EBITDA (Rmbm)	6,801	6,928	8,351	8,936	10,184
Net Profit (Rmbm)	5,026	5,303	5,545	6,462	7,462
Core EPS (Rmb)	1.27	1.34	1.41	1.65	1.90
Core EPS Growth	42.8%	4.9%	5.6%	16.5%	15.5%
FD Core P/E (x)	15.05	14.34	13.58	11.65	10.09
DPS (Rmb)	0.38	0.40	0.42	0.49	0.57
Dividend Yield	1.99%	2.10%	2.21%	2.58%	2.97%
EV/EBITDA (x)	12.07	14.73	11.34	9.91	7.99
P/FCFE (x)	NA	13.02	10.17	10.16	8.81
Net Gearing	40.7%	52.8%	36.9%	23.9%	11.1%
P/BV (x)	2.05	1.89	1.69	1.52	1.36
ROE	14.4%	13.8%	13.1%	13.7%	14.2%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(9.17%)	(8.76%)	(8.69%)
CGI/consensus EPS (x)			0.95	0.95	0.96

SOURCES: CGIS RESEARCH, COMPANY DATA, BLOOMBERG







Positive margin outlook in 2024F

Figure 1: Results review and outlook

(Rmb m)	1H22	1H23	уоу	2H22	2H23F	уоу	2022	2023F	уоу
Turnover	47,722.3	51,118.5	7.1%	44,871.0	47,019.4	4.8%	92,593.3	98,138.0	6.0%
Cost of sales	-30,263.5	-31,488.3	4.0%	-29,640.0	-30,459.3	2.8%	-59,903.5	-61,947.5	3.4%
Gross profit	17,458.8	19,630.2	12.4%	15,231.0	16,560.2	8.7%	32,689.8	36,190.4	10.7%
Gross margin	36.6%	38.4%	1.8ppt	33.9%	35.2%	1.3ppt	35.3%	36.9%	1.6ppt
Other operating income	1,475.2	502.6	-65.9%	664.4	1,637.0	146.4%	2,139.6	2,139.6	0.0%
Distribution costs	-12,710.2	-13,906.2	9.4%	-9,637.1	-10,662.6	10.6%	-22,347.3	-24,568.7	9.9%
Distribution costs as % of sales	26.6%	27.2%	0.6ppt	21.5%	22.7%	1.2ppt	24.1%	25.0%	0.9ppt
General and administrative expenses	-1,980.8	-2,184.5	10.3%	-2,461.0	-2,621.5	6.5%	-4,441.8	-4,806.0	8.2%
G & A expenses as % of sales	4.2%	4.3%	0.1ppt	5.5%	5.6%	0.1ppt	4.8%	4.9%	0.1ppt
Other operating expenses	-574.5	-564.3	-1.8%	-1,632.4	-1,774.9	8.7%	-2,207.0	-2,339.1	6.0%
Other operating expenses as % of sales	1.2%	1.1%	-0.1ppt	3.6%	3.8%	0.1ppt	2.4%	2.4%	0.0ppt
Operating profit	3,668.5	3,477.9	-5.2%	1,754.7	3,138.2	78.8%	5,423.2	6,616.2	22.0%
Operating margin	7.7%	6.8%	-0.9ppt	3.9%	6.7%	2.8ppt	5.9%	6.7%	0.9ppt
Share of profits of associates	371.7	111.3	-70.0%	37.3	302.5	711.2%	408.9	413.8	1.2%
Net finance charges	1,196.3	676.2	-43.5%	1,069.0	657.2	-38.5%	1,081.0	804.6	-25.6%
Profit before tax	4,147.7	3,703.3	-10.7%	1,944.5	3,223.3	65.8%	6,092.3	6,926.5	13.7%
Tax	-504.6	-644.3	27.7%	-812.9	-437.2	-46.2%	-1,317.5	-1,081.5	-17.9%
Profit after tax before minority interest	3,643.1	3,059.0	-16.0%	1,541.7	2,386.1	54.8%	5,184.8	5,445.1	5.0%
Minority interest	108.3	-38.5	-135.6%	9.9	138.5	1303.9%	118.2	100.0	-15.4%
Net profit	3,751.4	3,020.5	-19.5%	1,551.6	2,524.6	62.7%	5,303.0	5,545.1	4.6%

SOURCES: CGIS RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY DAT/

Figure 2: Earnings revision

FY23F			FY24F			FY25F			
Key assumptions	Old	New	% change	Old	New	% change	Old	New	% change
Sales (Rmbm)	99,548	98,138	-1.4%	108,108	104,211	-3.6%	116,610	112,715	-3.3%
Overall gross margin	37.0%	36.9%	-0.1%	37.3%	36.7%	-0.5%	37.5%	37.0%	-0.5%
Overall operating margin	6.8%	6.7%	-0.1%	7.2%	6.8%	-0.4%	7.8%	7.3%	-0.5%
Share of profits from CMD	289	289	0.0%	510	510	0.0%	642	642	0.0%
Overall reported net profit	6,105	5,545	-9.2%	7,083	6,462	-8.8%	8,172	7,462	-8.7%
EPS (Rmb)	1.55	1.41	-9.2%	1.80	1.65	-8.8%	2.08	1.90	-8.7%

SOURCES: CGIS RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY DATA

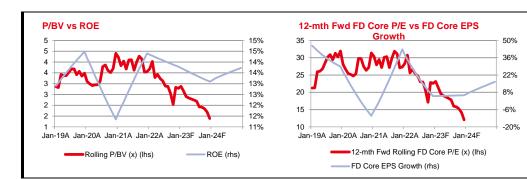
Figure 3: DCF valuation

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DCF valuation (Rmb m)	FY22	FY23F	FY24F	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F	FY28F	FY29F	FY30F	FY31F	FY32F	FY33F	FY34
EBIT	5,423.2	6,616.2	7,075.9	8,199.1	9,183.0	10,284.9	11,519.1	12,901.4	14,449.6	16,183.5	18,125.6	20,300.6	22,736.
Taxes	-1,289.7	-1,081.5	-1,177.2	-1,362.1	-1,525.6	-1,708.7	-1,913.7	-2,143.4	-2,400.6	-2,688.6	-3,011.3	-3,372.6	-3,777.
NOPAT	4,133.4	5,534.7	5,898.7	6,837.0	7,657.4	8,576.3	9,605.4	10,758.1	12,049.0	13,494.9	15,114.3	16,928.0	18,959.
NOPAT growth	4.8%	33.9%	6.6%	15.9%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
D&A	1,504.6	1,735.3	1,860.3	1,985.3	2,005.1	2,025.2	2,045.4	2,065.9	2,086.5	2,107.4	2,128.5	2,149.7	2,171.
Funds from operation	5,638.0	7,270.0	7,758.9	8,822.2	9,662.5	10,601.4	11,650.8	12,823.9	14,135.6	15,602.3	17,242.8	19,077.8	21,130.
Change in net working Capital	-989.2	992.7	1,678.6	1,690.8	1,707.7	1,724.7	1,742.0	1,759.4	1,777.0	1,794.8	1,812.7	1,830.8	1,849.
Cash flow from operation	4,648.8	8,262.7	9,437.6	10,513.0	11,370.2	12,326.2	13,392.8	14,583.3	15,912.6	17,397.1	19,055.5	20,908.6	22,979.
Capex	-2,500.0	-2,500.0	-2,500.0	-2,500.0	-2,525.0	-2,550.3	-2,575.8	-2,601.5	-2,627.5	-2,653.8	-2,680.3	-2,707.1	-2,734.
Free cash flow from operation	2,148.8	5,762.7	6,937.6	8,013.0	8,845.2	9,775.9	10,817.1	11,981.8	13,285.0	14,743.3	16,375.2	18,201.5	20,245.
FCF growth	43.6%	168.2%	20.4%	15.5%	10.4%	10.5%	10.7%	10.8%	10.9%	11.0%	11.1%	11.2%	11.2%
Terminal free cash flow	358.46	39.3					Assumption	IS					
Total discounted free cash flow	75,32									0.95			
Present value of terminal free cash flow	121,54	10.8					Risk Free Ra	ite		4.0%			
							Market Risk	Premium		6.8%			
Total present value of forecasted free cash flows	196,86	9.8					Cost of Equ	ity		10.5%			
Less: Net Debt / (Cash)	26,42	7.7					Cost of Debt			3.0%			
Equity Value	170,44	2.1					Effective Tax	Rate		24.5%			
No. of outstanding shares (millions)	3,967	7.9					Target Geari	ng		20.0%			
Per share Equity Value (Rmb)	43.0	נ					WACC			8.8%			
							Terminal gro	owth rate		3.0%			
Exchange rate	0.8						reminal gro			0.070			





BY THE NUMBERS



Profit & Loss

(Rmbm)	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Total Net Revenues	88,141	92,593	98,138	104,211	112,715
Gross Profit	32,390	32,690	36,190	38,296	41,682
Operating EBITDA	6,801	6,928	8,351	8,936	10,184
Depreciation And Amortisation	-1,939	-1,505	-1,735	-1,860	-1,985
Operating EBIT	4,862	5,423	6,616	7,076	8,199
Financial Income/(Expense)	313	670	-103	-171	-242
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	693	409	414	635	767
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	0	0	0	0	0
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	5,868	6,502	6,927	7,540	8,724
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	5,868	6,502	6,927	7,540	8,724
Taxation	-905	-1,318	-1,481	-1,177	-1,362
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	4,964	5,185	5,445	6,362	7,362
Minority Interests	62	118	100	100	100
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	5,026	5,303	5,545	6,462	7,462
Recurring Net Profit	5,026	5,303	5,545	6,462	7,462
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	5,026	5,303	5,545	6,462	7,462

Cash Flow					
(Rmbm)	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
EBITDA	6,801	6,928	8,351	8,936	10,184
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	1,459	-989	993	1,679	1,691
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	989	-7,711	422	643	775
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	-801	-1,125	-1,350	-1,418	-1,489
Tax Paid	-903	-1,318	-1,081	-1,177	-1,362
Cashflow From Operations	7,545	-4,215	7,335	8,663	9,800
Capex	-6,220	-2,500	-2,500	-2,500	-2,500
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	113	0	0	0	0
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	-5,869	5,522	0	0	0
Other Investing Cashflow	-3,464	-5,113	2,569	1,247	1,247
Cash Flow From Investing	-15,440	-2,091	69	-1,253	-1,253
Debt Raised/(repaid)	4,013	12,149	0	0	0
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	99	0	0	0	0
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	-1,077	-712	-1,058	-1,506	-1,590
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	3,738	-175	0	0	0
Cash Flow From Financing	6,773	11,262	-1,058	-1,506	-1,590
Total Cash Generated	-1,123	4,956	6,345	5,904	6,956
Free Cashflow To Equity	-3,883	5,843	7,403	7,410	8,546
Free Cashflow To Firm	-7,095	-5,181	8,754	8,828	10,035

SOURCES: CGIS RESEARCH, COMPANY DATA, BLOOMBERG





BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

(Rmbm)	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Total Cash And Equivalents	11,217	12,766	19,111	25,015	31,971
Total Debtors	4,162	3,665	4,332	4,629	5,038
Inventories	6,485	8,073	7,182	7,732	8,430
Total Other Current Assets	9,156	12,273	13,622	14,713	16,252
Total Current Assets	31,020	36,777	44,247	52,089	61,691
Fixed Assets	19,955	23,764	23,207	23,846	24,361
Total Investments	30,092	30,698	30,823	30,947	31,072
Intangible Assets	12,857	21,262	21,129	20,996	20,862
Total Other Non-Current Assets	4,178	5,312	5,312	5,312	5,312
Total Non-current Assets	67,081	81,036	80,471	81,102	81,608
Short-term Debt	4,265	9,095	9,095	9,095	9,09
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	8,804	10,201	9,864	10,587	11,506
Other Current Liabilities	16,003	13,858	16,311	19,207	22,623
Total Current Liabilities	29,072	33,153	35,271	38,888	43,224
Total Long-term Debt	24,060	30,099	30,099	30,099	30,099
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	2,970	4,509	4,509	4,509	4,509
Total Non-current Liabilities	27,030	34,608	34,608	34,608	34,60
Total Provisions	0	0	0	0	(
Total Liabilities	56,102	67,761	69,879	73,496	77,83
Shareholders' Equity	36,826	40,099	44,586	49,542	55,414
Minority Interests	5,174	9,953	9,853	9,753	9,65
Total Equity	41,999	50,052	54,439	59,295	65,06

Key Ratios					
	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Revenue Growth	15.9%	5.1%	6.0%	6.2%	8.2%
Operating EBITDA Growth	39.3%	1.9%	20.6%	7.0%	14.0%
Operating EBITDA Margin	7.72%	7.48%	8.51%	8.58%	9.04%
Net Cash Per Share (Rmb)	-4.34	-6.69	-5.11	-3.61	-1.84
BVPS (Rmb)	9.34	10.15	11.35	12.61	14.11
Gross Interest Cover	6.54	4.82	4.90	4.99	5.51
Effective Tax Rate	15.4%	20.3%	21.4%	15.6%	15.6%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	25.4%	24.0%	23.7%	25.4%	25.4%
Accounts Receivables Days	14.81	15.43	14.87	15.74	15.65
Inventory Days	39.27	44.35	44.94	41.41	41.52
Accounts Payables Days	54.91	57.90	59.11	56.78	56.76
ROIC (%)	13.4%	13.2%	10.3%	11.4%	13.5%
ROCE (%)	9.36%	9.05%	8.60%	8.66%	9.32%
Return On Average Assets	6.29%	5.54%	5.78%	5.95%	6.45%

Key Drivers					
	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Total sales volume growth (%)	14.0%	6.1%	-2.8%	3.8%	5.0%
Overall average selling price growth (%)	1.5%	0.1%	13.6%	2.3%	3.0%

SOURCES: CGIS RESEARCH, COMPANY DATA, BLOOMBERG





中国银河国际控股有限公司 CGS International Holdings Limited

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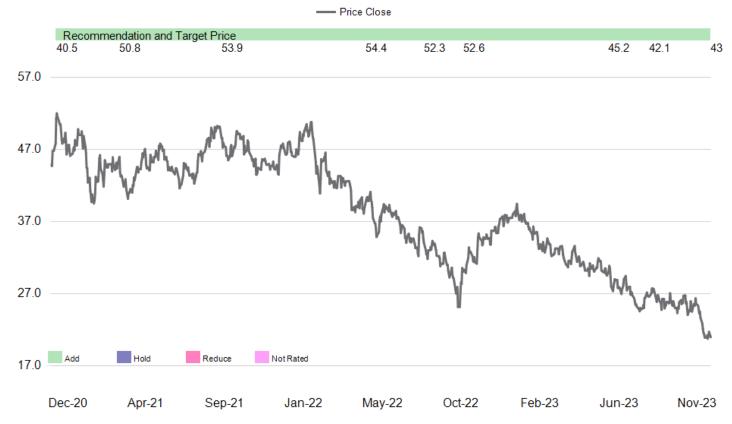
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	Rating Distribution (%)	Investment Banking clients (%)			
Add	66.7%	0.9%			
Hold	23.7%	0.0%			
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Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)

China Mengniu Dairy (2319 HK)









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