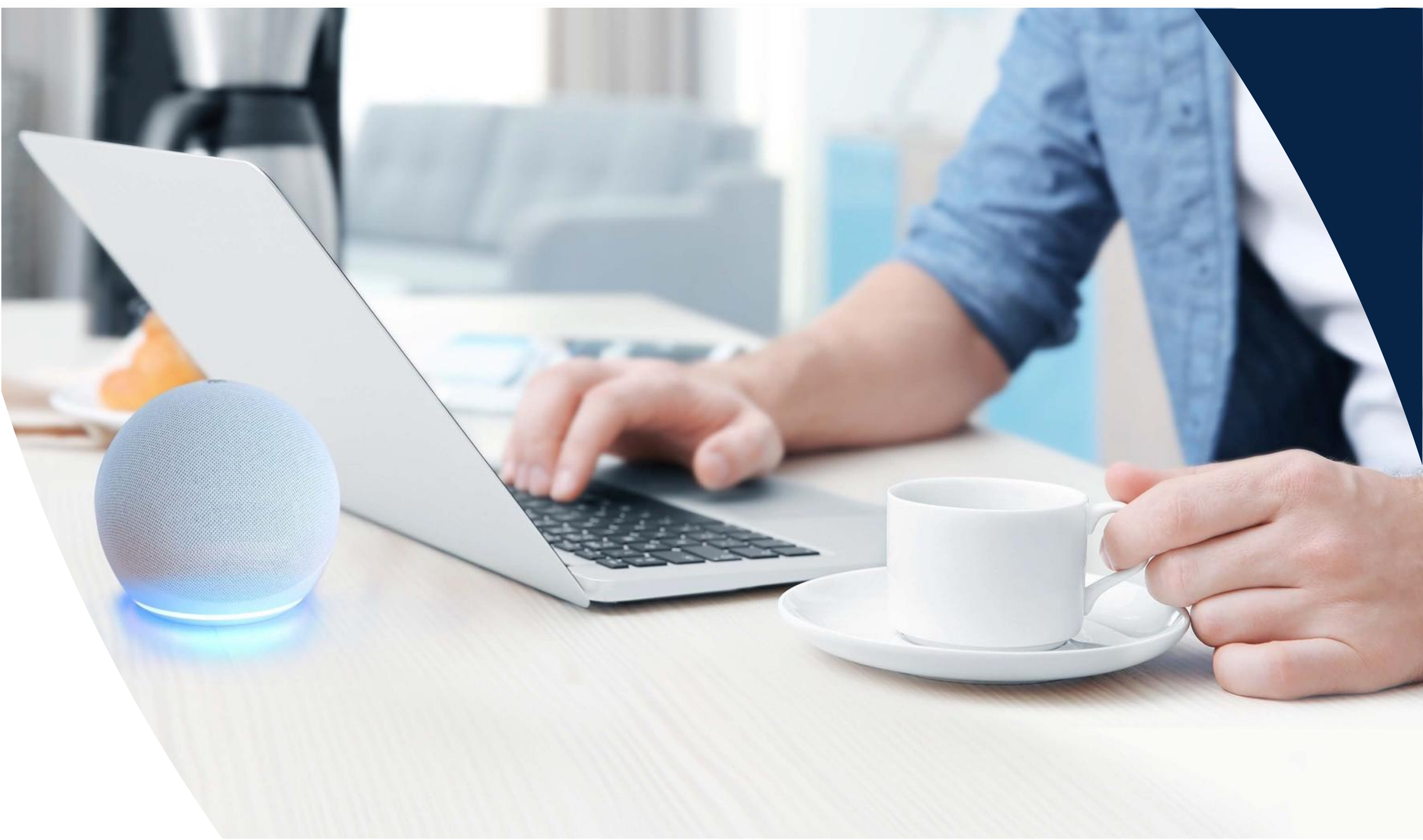
Emirates NBD



CIO OFFICE MORNING MARKET WRAP

28 April 2025

Although the week was off to a bad start with President Trump expressing heightened dissatisfaction about Fed chair Powell, stocks surged in the four days through Friday as threats to Fed independence were walked back and the US administration seemed to be looking for a path to reduce tariffs. Donald Trump said on Tuesday that tariffs on China could come down "considerably", and Treasury Secretary Bessent observed that at current levels they are not sustainable and may be reduced "in a mutual way". Thursday's claims by the administration of ongoing trade talks with China were denied by Beijing, that rebutted Washington should rather drop all levies, showing to be in no rush to negotiate. Overall, Trump's shifting tone left investors relieved and under the impression that there is a limit to the extent the president is willing to put growth at risk to rebuild US manufacturing. Since the April 9 tariff-pause US equities have rallied 10% and are now sitting 10% off the February highs. Further significant market progress will require the tailwind of successful negotiations with some of the major trading partners. Corporate earnings also seemed to contribute to the broader advance, with 73% of the companies that had reported through Friday beating consensus expectations. The Nasdaq (+6.4%) outperformed both the S&P 500 (+4.6%), and the Dow (+2.5%), with market gains led by technology (+7.9%) and consumer discretionaries (+7.4%), while consumer staples (-1.4%) lagged. Overseas DM and EM equities (both +2.7%) were also galvanized by the more constructive trade headlines. Investor's sentiment apart, economic forecasters ranging from the IMF to the German government and including the consensus of economists projected tariffs would impact growth negatively. US Treasuries ended higher for the week, with more pronounced gains at the longer end of the curve also signaling concerns about the economy. The yield on the 10-year note shed 10bps, and the 2-year settled 5bps lower. According to money markets, traders maintained bets of three Fed cuts into year-end. Fed speakers turned a bit more dovish in their comments, saying that evidence of a weaker economy would justify policy easing with inflation expectations being still well anchored. The US dollar rebounded by over 0.2% from its lowest levels so far for the year, benefitting as well from signs of easing trade tensions. Commodities closed mixed, reflecting different return drivers. Gold (-0.2%) retreated from fresh all-time highs on peaking policy uncertainty, crude oil (-1.6%) fell on a possible OPEC+ supply hike in June, while copper (+2%) rose for a third straight week in the wake of improving trade newsflow. China's Politburo on Friday failed to deliver a much-awaited message of additional stimulus aimed at offsetting the hit to external demand from Washington's policies. Execution of what approved in early March plus longer-term reform plans remained the main focus.

Earnings of the technology sector were in the spotlight in the past week. The sector rebounded hard, though more on trade headlines as results were mixed. Alphabet surprised on earnings and revenue, announcing additional $70bn shares buyback and 5% dividend increase. Shares surged to close almost flat on Friday. Intel cut forecasts and planned job cuts to streamline its business. The stock fell 10% through the open. IBM surprised on profits and revenue and raised guidance for Q2, with positive analyst commentary, yet the stock fell 8% through the open. Tesla ripped higher despite expected negative results as Elon Musk announced he would be stepping back from the DOGE government department. Tesla gained 18% for the week. All three major telecom providers reported, bellwether stocks for shifts in consumer spending. Only AT&T provided a solid set of numbers.

The current 20%-plus average rate on imports if confirmed would be plunging the US economy into recession, that could be avoided the closer that rate would be approaching a 10% level, excluding higher levies on China and some specific sectors. A pivot to a more pro-growth White-House-agenda focused on tax cuts or not-too-late Fed interventions would be key to avoiding all too damaging impacts on growth. The IMF lowered its forecasts for global growth for this year and the next to 2.8% and 3% respectively. The US and China saw the biggest downgrades, with the base case of no US recession this year, though its odds were seen as much higher. The US would go through a major supply shock from tariffs alongside lower productivity, while the countries hit by the higher levies would be witnessing a demand shock hitting output and prices. ECB President Christine Lagarde mentioned the possibility the central bank would revisit its economic forecasts due out in June. The German government cut its GDP projection for this year, with the country now showing no positive growth for the third year back-to-back into 2025-end. On the data front macroeconomic releases failed to show much relevance. The business confidence surveys confirmed a slowdown phase in the United States against the background of rising prices, stagnation in Europe with deflationary trends, while they pointed to a contraction in Q2 in the UK on tariffs uncertainty. One would infer from the surveys that both the ECB and the BOE would stay biased towards rate cuts. As for the consumer, the University of Michigan consumer sentiment final print confirmed dismal sentiment and high inflation expectations, while in the Eurozone sentiment remained depressed.

Markets this morning:
Equities are starting the week with modest gains in the Asian morning session, with focus on US trade negotiations and signs of further stimulus from China. Investors will be looking forward to the US jobs report and the Q1 GDP release, as well as the BOJ rate decisions. The Trump administration is working on trade deals with 17 key trade partners, excluding China, and has drafted a framework to handle negotiations. A regional gauge of Asian shares advanced 0.6%, while US futures declined 0.6%, and gold dropped as much as 1.6% signaling peak trade uncertainty. Chinese officials reiterated this morning their plan to strengthen support for employment and the economy.

Upcoming key events/data:
United States: 1Q GDP and jobs report
Europe: euro area CPI
Japan: BOJ rate decision
China: PMIs
Earnings: focus on four of the Magnificent 7, Microsoft, Meta, Apple, Amazon

Best Regards,

Chief Investment Office
Wealth Management
Emirates NBD.

Disclaimer

This document is prepared by Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) **("the Bank" or "Emirates NBD"),** a public joint stock company incorporated in Dubai, UAE and licensed, regulated supervised and controlled by the Central Bank of the UAE **("Central Bank")** and the Securities and Commodities Authority of the UAE **("SCA"),** having its head office at Baniyas Road, Deira, PO Box 777, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This document may be distributed and/or made available by the Bank and its affiliates and subsidiaries, including Emirates NBD Capital KSA CJSC **("ENBD Capital")** (through its website, its branches or through any other modes, whether electronically or otherwise).

Emirates NBD and its affiliates, subsidiaries and group entities, including its shareholders, directors, officers, employees and agents are collectively referred to Emirates NBD Group.

This publication is prepared without regard to the individual financial circumstances and objectives of persons who receive it. Data/information provided in this publication are intended solely for illustrative purposes for the general information or its recipients, irrespective of their customer classification as an Ordinary Investor or Professional Investor under the SCA Regulations.

Any person (hereinafter referred to as **"you", "your")** who has received this document or have access to this document shall acknowledge and agree to the following terms.

Reliance
This publication may include data/information taken from stock exchanges or other third-party sources from around the world, which Emirates NBD reasonably believes to be reliable, fair and not misleading, but which have not been independently verified. The provision of certain data/information in this publication may be subject to the terms and conditions of other agreements to which Emirates NBD is a party. Opinions, estimates and expressions of judgment are those of the writer and are subject to change without notice. Emirates NBD or any member of Emirates NBD Group makes no representation or warranty and accepts no responsibility or liability for the sequence, accuracy, completeness or timeliness of the information or opinions contained in this publication. Nothing contained in this publication shall be construed as an assurance by Emirates NBD that you may rely upon or act on any information or data provided herein, without further independent verification of the same by you.

The contents of this document are prepared as of a particular date and time and will not reflect subsequent changes in the market or changes in any other factors, including those relevant to the determination of whether a particular investment activity is advisable. Emirates NBD does not undertake any obligation to issue any further publications or update the contents of this document. Emirates NBD may also, at its sole discretion, update or change the contents herein without notice. Emirates NBD or any member of Emirates NBD Group does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for any loss or damage caused by any act or omission by you as a result of the information contained in this publication (including by negligence).

References to any financial instrument or investment product in this document are not intended to imply that an actual trading market exists for such instrument or product. Certain investment products mentioned in this document may not be eligible for sale in some jurisdictions, and they may not be suitable for all types of investors. The information and opinions contained in this publication is provided for informational purposes only and have not been prepared with any regard to the objectives, financial situation and particular needs of any specific person, wherever situated. If you wish to rely on or use the information contained in this publication, you should carefully consider whether any investment views and investment products mentioned herein are appropriate in view of your investment experience, objectives, financial resources and relevant circumstances. You should also independently verify and check the accuracy, completeness, reliability and suitability of the information and should obtain independent and specific advice from appropriate professional advisers or experts.

Confidentiality
This publication may be provided to you upon request (and not for distribution to the general public), on a confidential basis for informational purposes only, and is not intended for trading purposes or to be passed on or disclosed to any other person and/or to any jurisdiction that would render the distribution illegal.

Solicitation
None of the content in this publication constitutes a solicitation, offer, recommendation or opinion by Emirates NBD to buy, sell or trade in any security or to avail of any service in any jurisdiction. This document is not intended to serve as authoritative legal, tax, accounting, or investment advice regarding any security or investment, including the profitability or suitability thereof and further does not provide any fiduciary or financial advice. This document should also not be used in substitution for the exercise of the prospective investor's judgment.

Third Party
This publication is not intended for use by, or distribution to, any person or entity in any jurisdiction or country where such use or distribution would be contrary to law or regulation. It is the responsibility of any person in possession of this publication to investigate and observe all applicable laws and regulations of the relevant jurisdiction. This publication may not be conveyed to or used by a third party without the express consent of Emirates NBD or its affiliates, subsidiaries or group entities distributing this document. You should not use the data in this publication in any way to improve the quality of any data sold or contributed by you to any third party.

Liability
Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, Emirates NBD, its suppliers, agents, directors, officers, employees, representatives, successors, assigns, affiliates or subsidiaries shall not, directly or indirectly, be liable, in any way, to you or any other person for any: (a) inaccuracies or errors in or omissions from this publication including, but not limited to, quotes and financial data; or (b) loss or damage arising from the use of this publication, including, but not limited to any investment decision occasioned thereby. Under no circumstances, including but not limited to negligence, shall Emirates NBD, its suppliers, agents, directors, officers, employees, representatives, successors, assigns, affiliates or subsidiaries be liable to you for direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, special, punitive, or exemplary damages even if Emirates NBD has been advised specifically of the possibility of such damages, arising from the use of this publication, including but not limited to, loss of revenue, opportunity, or anticipated profits or lost business.

This publication does not provide individually tailored investment advice and is prepared without regard to the individual financial circumstances and objectives of person who receive it. The appropriateness of an investment activity or strategy will depend on the person's individual circumstances and objectives and these activities may not be suitable for all persons. In addition, before entering into any transaction, prospective investors should: (i) ensure that they fully understand the potential risks and rewards of that transaction; (ii) determine independently whether that transaction is appropriate given an investor's investment objectives, experience, financial and operational resources, and other relevant circumstances; (iii) understand that any rates of tax and zakat or any relief in relation thereto, as may be referred to in this publication may be subject to change over time; (iv) consult their advisers on the legal, regulatory, tax, business, investment, financial and accounting implications of the investment; (v) understand the nature of the investment and the related contract (and contractual relationship) including, without limitation, the nature and extent of their exposure to risk; and (vi) understand any regulatory requirements and restrictions applicable to the prospective investor.

Where this publication provides any information about Shariah compliant products, the Bank will not have engaged a Shariah board (or similar body) to determine independently whether or not such products are compliant with Shariah principles. The Bank accepts no liability with respect to the fairness, correctness, accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of any such determination or guidance by any Shariah board that has certified or otherwise approved such products as Shariah compliant. Nothing contained in this publication shall be construed as a recommendation by the Bank to invest in such product. In deciding whether to invest in Shariah compliant products, you should satisfy yourself that investing in such products will not contravene Shariah principles. You should consult your own Shariah advisors as to whether investing in such products is compliant or not with Shariah principles.

Forward Looking
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and should not be seen as an indication of future performance of any investment activity. The information contained in this publication does not purport to contain all matters relevant to any particular investment or financial instrument and all statements as to future matters are not guaranteed to be accurate. Certain matters in this publication about the future performance of Emirates NBD or members of its group (the Group), including without limitation, future revenues, earnings, strategies, prospects and all other statements that are not purely historical, constitute "forward-looking

statements". Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations or beliefs, as well as assumptions about future events, made from information currently available. Forward-looking statements often use words such as "anticipate", "target", "expect", "estimate", "intend", "plan", "goal", "seek", "believe", "will", "may", "should", "would", "could" or other words of similar meaning. Reliance should not be placed on any such statements in making an investment decision, as forward-looking statements, by their nature, are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, as well as the Group's plans and objectives, to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Estimates of future performance are based on assumptions that may not be realized.

Risk
Data included in this publication may rely on models that do not reflect or take into account all potentially significant factors such as market risk, liquidity risk, and credit risk. Emirates NBD may use different models, make valuation adjustments, or use different methodologies when determining prices at which Emirates NBD is willing to trade financial instruments and/or when valuing its own inventory positions for its books and records. The use of this publication is at the sole risk of the investor and this publication, and anything contained herein, is provided "as is" and "as available." Emirates NBD makes no warranty of any kind, express or implied, as to this publication, including, but not limited to, merchantability, non-infringement, title, or fitness for a particular purpose or use.

Investment in financial instruments involves risks and returns may vary. The value of investment products mentioned in this document may neither be capital protected nor guaranteed and the value of the investment product and the income derived therefrom can fall as well as rise and an investor may lose the principal amount invested. Investment products are subject to several risks factors, including without limitation, market risk, high volatility, credit and default risk, illiquidity, currency risk and interest rate risk. It should be noted that the value, price or income of securities denominated in a foreign currency may be adversely affected by changes in the currency rates. It may be difficult for the investor to sell or realize the security and to obtain reliable information about its value or the extent of the risks to which it is exposed. Furthermore, the investor will not have the right to cancel a subscription for securities once such subscription has been made. Prospective investors are hereby informed that the applicable regulations in certain jurisdictions may place certain restrictions on secondary market activities with respect to securities.

Before making an investment, investors should consult their advisers on the legal, regulatory, tax, business, investment, financial and accounting implications of the investment. In receiving this publication, the investor acknowledges it is fully aware that there are risks associated with investment activities. Moreover, the responsibility to obtain and carefully read and understand the content of documents relating to any investment activity described in this publication and to seek separate, independent financial advice if required to assess whether a particular investment activity described herein is suitable, lies exclusively with the investor.

Intellectual property
This publication has been developed, compiled, prepared, revised, selected, and arranged by Emirates NBD and others (including certain other information sources) through the application of methods and standards of judgment developed and applied through the expenditure of substantial time, effort, and money and constitutes valuable intellectual property of Emirates NBD and such others. All present and future rights in and to trade secrets, patents, copyrights, trademarks, service marks, know-how, and other proprietary rights of any type under the laws of any governmental authority, domestic or foreign, shall, as between the investor and Emirates NBD, at all times be and remain the sole and exclusive property of Emirates NBD and/or other lawful parties.

Except as specifically permitted in writing, you should not copy or make any use of the content of this publication or any portion thereof or publish, circulate, reproduce, distribute or offer this publication for sale in whole or in part to any other person over any medium including but not limited to over-the-air television or radio broadcast, a computer network or hyperlink framing on the internet or construct a database of any kind. Except as specifically permitted in writing, you shall not use the intellectual property rights connected with this publication, or the names of any individual participant in, or contributor to, the content of this publication, or any variations or derivatives thereof, for any purpose. This publication is intended solely for non-commercial use and benefit, and not for resale or other transfer or disposition to, or use by or for the benefit of, any other person or entity. By accepting this publication, you agree not to use, transfer, distribute, copy, reproduce, publish, display, modify, create, or dispose of any information contained in this publication in any manner that could compete with the business interests of Emirates NBD. Furthermore, you should not use any of the trademarks, trade names, service marks, copyrights, or logos of Emirates NBD or its subsidiaries in any manner which creates the impression that such items belong to or are associated with you, except as otherwise provided with Emirates NBD's prior written consent. You shall have no ownership rights in and to any of such items.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UNITED KINGDOM
This publication was prepared by Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) in the United Arab Emirates. It has been issued and approved for distribution to clients by the London branch of Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) which is authorized by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority in the UK. Some investments and services are not available to clients of the London Branch. Any services provided by Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) outside the UK will not be regulated by the FCA and you will not receive all the protections afforded to retail customers under the FCA regime, such as the Financial Ombudsman Service and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Changes in foreign exchange rates may affect any of the returns or income set out within this publication.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SINGAPORE
This publication was prepared by Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) in the United Arab Emirates. It has been issued and approved for distribution to clients by the Singapore branch of Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) which is licensed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and subject to applicable laws (including the Financial Advisers Act (FAA) and the Securities and Futures Act (SFA). Any services provided by Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C) outside Singapore will not be regulated by the MAS or subject to the provisions of the FAA and/or SFA, and you will not receive all the protections afforded to retail customers under the FAA and/or SFA. Changes in foreign exchange rates may affect any of the returns or income set out within this publication. Please contact your Relationship Manager for further details or for clarification of the contents, where appropriate. For contact information, please visit www.emiratesnbd.com.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT EMIRATES NBD CAPITAL KSA CJSC
Emirates NBD Capital KSA CJSC ("ENBD Capital"), whose registered office is at P.O. Box 341777, Riyadh 11333, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, is a Saudi closed joint stock company licensed by the Saudi Arabian Capital Market Authority ("CMA") under License number 37-07086 dated 29/08/2007G (corresponding to 16/08/1428H) to deliver a full range of quality investment products and related support services to individuals and institutions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. ENBD Capital is subject to Capital Market Law, and Implementing Regulations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
ENBD Capital's contact details are T +966 (11) 299 3900 and F +966 (11) 299 3955.
This document may not be distributed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia except to such persons as are permitted under the Investment Funds Regulations issued by the Capital Market Authority.
The Capital Market Authority does not make any representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this document, and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this document. Prospective subscribers of the securities offered hereby should conduct their own due diligence on the accuracy of the information relating to the securities offered. If you do not understand the contents of this document, you should consult an authorised financial adviser.