2 August 2012

Equity Focus

CCB (939 HK) – UNRATED

Diversified Banks Industry

Best position under rate cut cycle

The continued anti-repo by the PBOC increased market expectations on RRR cuts, which we expect 2-3 RRR cuts in 2H12. Banks such as CCB with sufficient excess reserve and LDR buffer could grow their loan book easier. CCB could outperform peers under rate down cycle, with limited downside trading at 2s.d. below mean consensus 12E PB.

Increasing RRR cut expectation. PBOC operated anit-repo over the last 5 weeks accumulated over Rmb600bn, aiming to support economic growth by providing liquidity, market takes this a signal to upcoming required reserve ratio (RRR) cuts, we believe there will be 2-3 RRR cuts in 2H12, with 50-100bps each time, aggregate to 2-3ppt. This will reduce current large banks RRR from 20% to 17-18% level, fuelling economy growth by increasing liquidity through banking system.

Loan growth drives earnings. Under interest rate cut cycle, banks' earnings will be driven by interest earning assets growth to overcome weakening net interest margin (NIM). Higher excess reserve and lower loans to deposits ratio (LDR) allow banks to grow their loan book without overly expose to deposit fight, contributing to a more defensive profit position. We noticed that H-share Chinese banks have an average excess reserve ratio of 1.87%, of which CCB and BOC (3988 HK) ranked highest with over 3% excess reserve as of Dec 2011. On the other hand larger banks such as CCB, ICBC (1398 HK) and ABC (1288 HK) generally possessed lower LDR compare to peers ranged 58-65% by end Mar 2012, which increase their bargaining power in deposit competition when they grow their loan book.

Best position. Considered both factors, we think CCB has best position to drive future growth in the down interest rate cycle, which avoid hitting hard from surging deposit cost. CCB currently trading at 1x consensus 12E PB, close to 2 s.d. below mean, we believe further downside from here is limited compare to historical mean of 1.95x PB.

Risk factors. Further slowing of China economy growth and increasing credit quality concern.

Forecast and Valuation FY ended Dec 31 FY07A FY08A FY09A FY10A FY11A Operating income (Rmb mn) 269,747 269,314 325,780 399,403 220,717 YoY chg (%) 36.3 22.2 (0.2)21.0 22.6 Net profit (Rmb) 69,053 92,599 169,258 106,756 134,844 YoY chg (%) 21.9 26.3 25.5 34.1 15.3 EPS (Rmb) 0.31 0.40 0.46 0.54 0.68 BVPS (Rmb) 1.80 1.99 2.79 3.24 2.38 P/E(x)6.5 P/B(x)1.4 20.9 20.9 21.5 ROAE (%) 18.4 22.4

Source: Company, Bloomberg, ABCI Securities estimates

Koy Doto

KCy Data	
H share Share price (HK\$)	5.28
52Wk H/L(HK\$)	6.59 / 4.44
Issued shares (mn)	250,011
- H shares (mn)	240,417
- A shares (mn)	9,594
Market cap (HK\$mn)	1,316,120
 H shares (HK\$mn) 	1,269,403
 A shares (HK\$mn) 	46,717
3 months avg vol (HK\$mn)	1,525
Major shareholder (%):	
Huijin	59.31

Source: Company, Bloomberg, ABCI Securities

Operating income composition in FY11 (%)

Corporate banking	49.9
Personal banking	28.8
Treasury business	19.7
Others	1.6

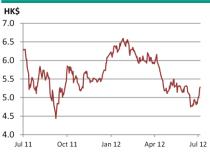
Source: Company

Share performance (%)

	Absolute	Relative*
1-mth	(0.2)	(2.1)
3-mth	(11.6)	(5.2)
6-mth	(14.8)	(12.6)

Source: Bloomberg

1 year price performance



Source: Bloomberg

Analyst:

Johannes Au

Tel: (852) 2147 8802

Email: johannesau@abci.com.hk

^{*}Relative to Hang Seng Index



Exhibit 1: CCB PB band chart



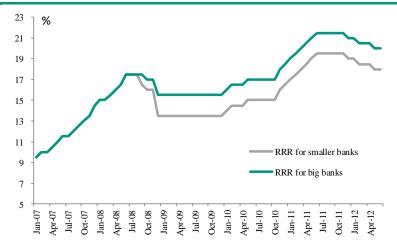
Source: Bloomberg, ABCI Securities estimates

Exhibit 2: H share Chinese banks excess reserve and LDR

	2011			1Q12	
Stock name	Ticker	Total reserve ratio (%)	RRR (%)	Excess reserve ratio (%)	LDR (%)
CCB	939 HK	23.1	20	3.10	64.3
BOC	3988 HK	24.0	20	4.02	69.2
ICBC	1398 HK	22.0	20	1.96	64.7
BOCOMM	3328 HK	22.0	20	1.95	79.2
ABC	1288 HK	21.9	20	1.93	58.1
CMB	3968 HK	17.9	18	(0.14)	75.4
MSB	1988 HK	19.9	18	1.89	73.8
CNCB	998 HK	18.2	18	0.22	72.3

Source: Bloomberg, ABCI Securities estimates

Exhibit 3: China RRR trend



Source: Wind, ABCI Securities estimates



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Office address: ABCI Securities Company Limited, 13/F Fairmont House, 8 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong.

Tel: (852) 2868 2183