

## Etihad Etisalat Co.

INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT IDEAS

March 08, 2021

# Telecommunication Services | Etihad Etisalat | 7020

### **FY20 Results Update**

Recommendation	Neutral		
Previous Recommendation	Neutral		
Current Price (SAR)	28.6		
Target Price (SAR)	29.0		
Upside/Downside (%)	1.4%		
As of March 08, 2021			

#### Key Data (Source: Bloomberg)

Market Cap (SAR bn)	22.0
52-Wk High (SAR)	32.3
52-Wk Low (SAR)	18.5
Total Outstanding shares (in mn)	770
Free Float (%)	65.1%

#### ETIHAD ETISALAT vs. TASI (Rebased)



Price Performance (%)	Absolute	Relative	
1m	0.5%	(7.4%)	
6m	4.0%	(12.8%)	
12m	36.2%	10.7%	
Major Shareholders (%)			
Emirates Telecommunicat (Etisalat)	27.99%		

6.90%

#### Revenue (SAR bn) and EBITDA Margin (%)

General Org. for Social Insurance



Source: Bloomberg, Company Financials, FALCOM Research; Data as of March 08, 2021

#### Higher data revenue, improving subscriber mix boost top line in FY20; margins expand

Etihad Etisalat Co. (Mobily)'s revenue grew 4.4% YoY to SAR 14.0bn in FY20, aided by growth in data revenue and customer base. Gross profit inched up 4.5% YoY to SAR 8.2bn, while gross margin expanded 4.8 bps to 58.0% in FY20. Reported EBITDA was up 8.2% YoY to SAR 5.4bn due to operational efficiency and improvement in revenue mix, resulting in a 131.2 bps expansion in EBITDA margin to 38.1% in FY20. Decrease in finance and zakat expenses drove net profit up to SAR 783.3mn from SAR 31.2mn in FY19, leading to a 534.4 bps expansion in net margin to 5.6% during the year.

Mobily recorded its highest revenue in five years owing to steady growth across all segments. The Business and Wholesale segments contributed the most to growth in revenue in FY20; revenue from the segments rose 25.8% YoY to SAR 2.0bn and 10.6% YoY to SAR 1.2bn, respectively. Growth in top line in FY20 was also supported by rise in data consumption and addition to the company's FTTH subscriber base amid challenging conditions created by the pandemic. The company reported its highest EBITDA in seven years owing to operational efficiency and improvement in revenue mix. This aided the company to report a sharp rise in bottom line and steady improvement in profit margins. The company also managed to pare its debt and bring down net-debt-to-EBITDA to 2.26x from 2.46x in FY19. Mobily is actively seeking the sale of its tower business; the deal could provide it with the necessary capital to expedite the deployment of 5G network, which, as of FY20, it operates across 53 cities in the Kingdom. However, the company faces several headwinds in the form of increased competition in the telecom sector due to the government's plans to award two MVNO licenses to foreign operators and stringent regulations. Furthermore, additional restrictions on international travel for visitors from certain countries due to new mutations of the COVID-19 virus may hurt the company's roaming revenue and put pressure on its bottom line. As a result of the countervailing factors mentioned above, we maintain our "Neutral" rating on the stock.

- Revenue inched up 4.4% YoY to SAR 14.0bn in FY20 owing to steady growth in data revenue and customer base, alongside improvement in subscriber mix. Increase in revenue from the Business, Wholesale and Outsourcing segments also boosted the top line during the year.
- Gross profit rose 4.5% YoY to SAR 8.2bn as the growth in top line offset the 4.3% YoY rise in cost
  of sales to SAR 5.9bn. Subsequently, gross margin widened 4.8 bps to 58.0% in FY20.
- EBITDA increased 8.2% YoY to SAR 5.4bn due to operational efficiency and improved revenue mix. As a result, EBITDA margin expanded to 38.1% in FY20 from 36.8% in FY19.
- Operating income surged 41.3% YoY to SAR 1.4bn in FY20 on lower G&A expense and impairment loss. Consequently, operating margin widened to 9.7% in FY20 from 7.2% in FY19.
- Lower finance and zakat costs, coupled with higher margins, pushed net profit up to SAR 783.3mn in FY20 from SAR 31.2mn in FY19. Subsequently, net margin expanded to 5.6% from 0.2% in FY19.
- Net debt dipped 0.2% YoY to SAR 10.6bn in FY20, with net-debt-to-EBITDA contracting to 2.26x from 2.46x in FY19. Capex inched up 1.2% YoY to SAR 2.8bn in FY20, as the company remained focused on its infrastructure investment plans.
- On December 17, Mobily's Board recommended a cash dividend of SAR 0.5 per share for FY20, equivalent to SAR 385mn or 5% of the company's share capital.

Valuation: We revise our target price upward to a fair value of SAR 29.0 and retain our "Neutral" rating on the stock.

	4Q20	4Q19	% YoY	FY21E	FY20	% YoY
Revenues (SAR mn)	3533	3514	0.5%	14854	14046	5.8%
Gross Profit (SAR mn)	1969	1990	(1.0%)	8690	8152	6.6%
Operating Profit (SAR mn)	380	166	128.2%	1563	1367	14.4%
Net Profit (SAR mn)	246	(125)	NM	1000	783	27.7%
EPS Basic (SAR)	0.32	(0.16)	NM	1.30	1.02	27.7%
Gross Margin (%)	55.7%	56.6%	(0.9%)	58.5%	58.0%	0.5%
Operating Margin (%)	10.8%	4.7%	6.0%	10.5%	9.7%	0.8%
Net Profit Margin (%)	7.0%	(3.6%)	NM	6.7%	5.6%	1.2%

Source: Company Financials, FALCOM Research

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Overweight: The Target share price exceeds the current share price by  $\geq$  10%.

Neutral: The Target share price is either more or less than the current share price by 10%.

Underweight: The Target share price is less than the current share price by  $\geq 10\%$ .

To be Revised: No target price had been set for one or more of the following reasons: (1) waiting for more analysis, (2) waiting for detailed financials, (3)

waiting for more data to be updated, (4) major change in company's performance, (5) change in market conditions or (6) any other reason

from FALCOM Financial Services.

## **FALCOM Financial Services**

Contact us on the below phone numbers:

Customer Services: 8004298888
Brokerage Services: 920004711

Fax or Email us at the below number:

Fax: +966 11 2032546

Email: addingvalue@falcom.com.sa

Mail us at the following address:

P.O. Box 884 Riyadh 11421

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** 

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