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Investors are cautiously optimistic according to new FGB Wealth Sentiment Index

Bank announces January 2017 index score at 1017.41

Abu Dhabi, January 17, 2017: FGB, one of the leading banks in the UAE, has announced the first score of its Wealth Sentiment Index, which stands at 1017.41 for January 2017. The index score indicates cautious optimism amongst UAE investors, with crude oil prices firming up and the UAE tourism sector remaining healthy with increasing room occupancy, alongside an increase in the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI). The score was announced during a ceremony attended by FGB CEO, André Sayegh, Head of the Consumer Banking Group, Hana Al Rostamani and Global Head of Wealth Management and Affluent Banking, Mufazzal Kajiji, at the FGB Business Park in Abu Dhabi.

The index score is based on insights from a panel of industry thought leaders, who form the FGB Wealth Sentiment Index Council, which is composed of affluent individuals and industry experts (60%). The research is based on three key areas: optimism within the UAE market, growth prospects in respective industries and personal investment choices. This research is combined with key market indicators, such as GDP, inflation, stock indices and commodity prices, alongside sectorial indicators including real estate, tourism and trade, which is weighted at 40%.

The launch of the index, the first-of-its-kind for the UAE and MENA region, was announced during the bank's fourth annual Investment Conference in November 2016, and was established to measure the prevailing mood of affluent investors in the UAE market, from a personal and business point of view. It is an indicator of the overall sentiment of the market, based on existing fundamental and economic factors.

Andre Sayegh, CEO of FGB: "The Wealth practice is vital and integral to our bank and will continue to make up an important part of our business as we move into the new bank. We are proud to have come a long way in our Wealth Offerings, creating an index that provides an important reference for investors and wealth customers, and the UAE's investment community. Our achievement reflects our strength and leading position, and the ability of a local bank to offer unique and innovative wealth services and is a building block in our journey to provide one of the best wealth offerings available in the UAE market."

Hana Al Rostamani, Head of the Consumer Banking Group at FGB, said: "We're very proud to have officially launched FGB's new Wealth Sentiment Index with the announcement of our first monthly score. The score for January 2017 indicates a cautiously optimistic outlook amongst investors and the business community, in light of continued growth across the UAE's tourism and manufacturing sectors, and with oil prices expected to rise this year. Providing insights into the viewpoints of

industry leaders and evolving market conditions, the Wealth Sentiment Index is a valuable tool which we're pleased to have brought to the UAE and MENA region for the first time, marking another important FGB milestone.”

The FGB Wealth Sentiment Index has been launched in partnership with research agency, IPSOS, and insurance provider, Generali.

FGB Wealth is dedicated to enabling customers to grow, protect or transfer their wealth through the help of dedicated wealth managers and a disciplined four-step wealth management programme. This includes understanding each customer's needs and goals, assessing their risk profile, developing and implementing a complete financial plan and providing expert advice about any changes or new opportunities.

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About FGB

As a major leading bank in the UAE, FGB had Shareholder Equity of AED 36.0 Billion as of September 30th, 2016 making it one of the largest equity based banks in the UAE. Established in 1979 and headquartered in Abu Dhabi, the bank offers a full range of financial services to business and consumer sectors through a network of branches across the UAE. Internationally, FGB has branches in Singapore and Qatar, representative offices in India, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, Seoul- Korea and a subsidiary in Libya.

FGB is recognised as a world-class organisation committed to maximising value for shareholders, customers and employees as it focuses on delivering banking products and services that meet client needs and support the UAE's dynamic economy. In line with its commitment to excellence the bank continues to invest significantly in people and technology to provide superior service standards.

Awards

- 2016 Banker Middle East UAE Product Awards: 'Best Co-branded Credit Card', 'Best Onshore Wealth Proposition' 'Best SME Trade Finance Offering' and 'Best Bancassurance Product'
- 2016 Smart Card and Payments Awards: 'Best Premium Credit Card' – Ferrari credit card
- Asiamoney/Global Capital Asia 'Best China Deals': 'Best International Bond award'
- 2016 PFI Finance award: 'Middle East and North Africa Industrial Deal of the Year'
- Two 2016 IJ Global awards

- The BIZZ award: National Housing Loans programme
- The Banker Middle East Industry Awards 2015: “Best Bank in the UAE” and “Best Bank in the Middle East”
- Seven 2015 Banker Middle East UAE Product Awards: ‘Best Call Centre’, ‘Best Credit Card’, ‘Best Personal Loan’, ‘Best Wealth Management Service/Proposition’, ‘Best Offshore Wealth Proposition’, ‘Best Deposit Account Product’ and ‘Best Bancassurance Product’
- 2015 Bonds, Loans & Sukuk Middle East Awards: Project Finance Deal of the Year, Structured Finance Deal of the Year and Syndicated Loan Deal of the Year categories
- The Banker 2015 Islamic Banker of the Year Awards – ‘Shariah-Compliant Window’
- 2015 Trade Finance Awards for Excellence: ‘Best Islamic Trade Finance Bank EMEA’
- Asian Banker 2015 Middle East and Africa Country Awards: ‘Best Wealth Management in the Middle East Award’ and ‘Best Mortgage and Home Loan Product in the Middle East Award’
- 2015 Global Capital Bond Market Awards: ‘Most Impressive Middle East Borrower Award’
- 2015 Arabian Business Achievement Awards “Bank of the Year”
- 2015 Arabian Business Start-up Awards: “SME Bank of the Year”

For more information

Visit FGB’s corporate website: www.fgbgroup.com

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