Lifestyles | Malaysia | December 22, 2022





Malaysia

HOLD (previously ADD)

CGSCIMB

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 1	Hold 1	Sell 0
Current price:	_		RM1.43
Target price:			RM1.36
Previous target:			RM1.60
Up/downside:			-4.9%
CGS-CIMB / Consens	sus:		-11.1%
Reuters:		В	ESH.KL
Bloomberg:		BESH	HOM MK
Market cap:		US	\$96.68m
		RN	/l429.1m
Average daily turnove	r:	US	S\$0.01m
		R	M0.03m
Current shares o/s:			300.1m
Free float:			46.0%
*Source: Bloomberg			

Key changes in this note

FY23-25F EPS forecasts decreased by 34.7-40.6% on reduced revenue and operating margin assumptions.



		Source:	Bloomberg
Price performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
Absolute (%)	-1.4	-1.4	-16.9
Relative (%)	-2.4	-2.5	-14.9
Major shareholders			% held
The Estate of the late	Гап Kai H	ee	10.8
Akintan Sdn Bhd			8.5
Excellant Communicat	ion Sdn B	hd	5.4

Beshom Holdings Bhd

Weak outlook for its MLM segment

- Beshom's 1HFY4/23 core net profit of RM9.2m (-38.3% yoy) was below our expectations (24.0% of FY23F) and Bloomberg consensus (25.4%).
- We expect a tough operating environment for its MLM segment in 2HFY23F due to weaker consumer discretionary spending and increased competition.
- Downgrade to Hold with a lower TP of RM1.36 (14x CY24F P/E), supported by decent dividend yield of 5.6% (FY23-25F) and a healthy net cash position.

2QFY4/23 core net profit of RM3.9m (-52.3% yoy); below expectation Beshom Holdings Bhd's (Beshom) 2QFY4/23 core net profit (CNP) plunged 52.3% yoy to RM3.9m. This brings 1HFY23 CNP to RM9.2m (-38.3% yoy), which was below expectations at 24.0% of our and 25.4% of Bloomberg consensus FY23F estimates. The earnings underperformance was mainly due to weaker-than-expected contributions from its multi-level marketing (MLM) segment, which more than offset the gradual recovery of its retail and wholesale segment in 2QFY23. Its MLM segment's 2QFY23 sales fell to RM20.6m (-42.0% yoy) while operating margin dropped to 11.6% (-8.4% pts yoy), as a result of its members' weaker consumer discretionary spending power, unfavourable product mix and higher marketing costs. Beshom also declared its first interim dividend of 3 sen/share on 21 Dec 22, representing a dividend payout of 43.4%, below expectations.

Lower 2QFY23 sales and CNP on a gog basis due to seasonality

Beshom's 2QFY23 revenue fell 8.7% gog due to lower sales contributions from its MLM (-4.2% goq) and wholesale (-24.8% goq) segments, partly due to seasonality post Hari Raya festive sales and sales promotions in 1QFY23, respectively. 2QFY23 EBITDA margin also narrowed to 15.3% (-3.6% pts qoq), owing to an unfavourable product mix, lower economies of scale and higher marketing costs (aggressive recruitment activities and incentives), in our view. As a result, 2QFY23 CNP came in at RM3.9m (-27.9% qoq).

Weak MLM segment could be a dampener to a stronger 2HFY23F

We expect Beshom to post stronger earnings in 2HFY23F, primarily on increased contributions from its retail and wholesale segments due to major festive sales (e.g. Christmas and Chinese New Year) and higher footfall. This is despite the tepid earnings outlook for the MLM segment given its members' weaker consumer discretionary spending power amid high inflationary pressures and rising interest rates. A weaker-thanexpected recovery in MLM members could pose downside risks to our forecasts.

Downgrade to Hold with a lower TP of RM1.36

We cut our FY23-25F EPS by 34.7-40.6% to reflect lower revenue and margin assumptions due to rising marketing and input costs. In tandem with our EPS cuts, our TP drops to RM1.36 (14x CY24F P/E, its 5-year historical mean) as we roll over our valuation base year to CY24F. We downgrade the stock to Hold from Add on a more subdued earnings outlook as we expect the MLM segment to face a tough operating environment. However, we believe its share price will be supported by decent dividend yields of 5.6% (FY23-25F) and a healthy net cash position of RM114.9m (RM0.38/share).

Financial Summary	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
Revenue (RMm)	271.4	209.6	214.1	231.1	245.4
Operating EBITDA (RMm)	58.30	44.59	36.41	41.91	46.39
Net Profit (RMm)	38.82	28.57	23.44	27.03	30.19
Core EPS (RM)	0.13	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.10
Core EPS Growth	13.3%	(29.0%)	(15.0%)	15.3%	11.7%
FD Core P/E (x)	11.04	15.55	18.31	15.88	14.22
DPS (RM)	0.090	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080
Dividend Yield	6.29%	5.59%	5.59%	5.59%	5.59%
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.61	8.60	10.82	9.32	8.32
P/FCFE (x)	9.15	14.67	51.55	12.22	11.22
Net Gearing	(16.8%)	(17.4%)	(11.1%)	(12.1%)	(13.5%)
P/BV (x)	1.37	1.35	1.35	1.34	1.32
ROE	12.7%	8.8%	7.4%	8.5%	9.3%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(39.2%)	(40.6%)	(34.7%)
CGS-CIMB/Consensus EPS (x)			0.31	0.30	0.33

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

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Weak outlook for its MLM segment

Key de-rating catalysts and key upside risks ▶

Key de-rating catalysts: lower-than-expected MLM sales as a result of lower consumer discretionary spending power and lower-than-expected GP margin due to higher input costs and operating expenses that could lead to greater margin compression.

Key upside risks: Stronger-than-expected MLM sales, faster pace of recovery of its wholesale and retail segment, and higher-than-expected margin due to higher economies of scale and operating efficiency.

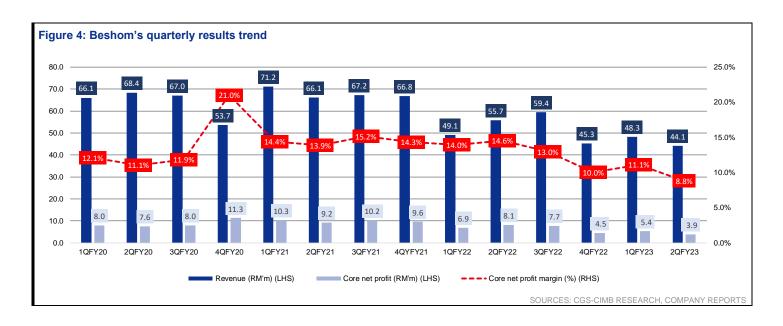
Figure 1: Results	compa	rison						
FYE Apr (RM m)	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy % chg	qoq % chg	1HFY23 cum	1HFY22 cum	yoy % chg	Prev FY23F Comments
Revenue	44.1	55.7	(20.9)	(8.7)	92.3	104.9	-12.0	Group revenue lower yoy due to lower MLM division revenue (- 273.6 42.0% yoy), which partially mitigated by the increase in retail revenue (+21.5% yoy), wholesale (+11.7% yoy) and others (+22.2%) revenue in 1QFY23.
Operating costs	-37.3	-43.5	(14.2)	(4.6)	-76.4	-81.9	-6.7	-217.1
EBITDA	6.8	12.3	(45.0)	(26.2)	15.9	23.0	-30.7	56.6
EBITDA margin (%)	15.3	22.0	(6.7)	(3.6)	17.2	21.9	-4.7	20.7 Lower EBITDA margin due to lower economies of scale, unfavourable product mix and higher marketing costs
Depn & amort.	-1.4	-1.6	(12.7)	(2.4)	-2.7	-3.1	-11.4	-6.1
EBIT	5.4	10.7	(49.6)	(30.5)	13.2	19.9	-33.7	50.4
Interest expense	0.0	-0.1	(25.0)	-	-0.1	-0.1	-24.4	-0.1
Interest & invt inc	0.2	0.1	15.0	8.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.0
Associates' contrib	0.0	0.0	n.m.	(82.4)	0.0	0.0	122	0.0
Exceptionals	0.0	-0.3	(101.0)	>100	1.7	-0.2	>100	0.0 Included one-off gain from disposal of vintage tea amounting to RM1.7m and provision for write off and net forex gain
Pretax profit	5.5	10.5	(47.4)	(41.9)	15.0	19.9	-24.5	51.4
Tax	-1.5	-2.6	(41.8)	(37.4)	-3.9	-4.9	-21.0	-12.9
Tax rate (%)	27.1	24.5	2.6	1.9	25.9	24.7	4.7	Higher tax rate due to certain expenses which were not deductible 25.0 for tax purpose and losses of certain subsidiary companies which could not be off set against profits of certain subsidiaries
Minority interests	0.1	0.1	37.5	93.2	0.2	0.2	44.7	0.0
Net profit	3.9	7.8	(50.4)	(44.8)	10.9	14.8	-26.4	38.6
Core net profit	3.9	8.1	(52.3)	(27.9)	9.2	15.0	-38.3	38.6 Below our and Bloomberg's consensus expectations at 24.0% and 25.4% of FY23F forecasts respectively
Core net margin %	8.8	14.6	(5.8)	(2.3)	13.0	14.3	-1.3	14.1
EPS (sen)	1.3	2.6	(50.4)	(44.8)	6.9	9.4	-26.4	12.8
Core EPS (sen)	1.3	2.7	(52.3)	(27.9)	5.9	9.5	-38.3	12.8

Figure 2: Earn	Figure 2: Earnings revision									
RM m	FY22		FY23F			FY24F			FY25F	•
		Old	New	%chg	Old	New	%chg	Old	New	%chg
Revenue	271.4	273.6	214.1	-21.8%	301.6	231.1	-23.4%	306.0	245.4	-19.8%
EBITDA	58.3	56.6	36.4	-35.6%	66.4	41.9	-36.9%	67.6	46.4	-31.4%
Core pretax profit	52.4	51.4	31.3	-39.2%	60.7	36.0	-40.6%	61.6	40.3	-34.7%
Core net profit	38.9	38.6	23.4	-39.2%	45.5	27.0	-40.6%	46.2	30.2	-34.7%
Core EPS (sen)	12.9	12.8	7.8	-39.2%	15.2	9.0	-40.6%	15.4	10.1	-34.7%
						SC	URCES: CO	S-CIMB,	COMPAN	Y REPORTS



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Revenue (RM'm)	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy % chg	4QFY22	qoq % chg	1HFY23 cum	1HFY22 cum	yoy % chg
Multi-Level Marketing	20.6	35.5	-42.0%	21.8	-4.2%	42.1	65.6	-35.8%
Wholesale	12.8	11.4	11.7%	13.7	-24.8%	29.8	22.2	33.8%
Retail	9.5	7.9	21.5%	8.7	10.1%	18.2	15.1	20.5%
Others	1.2	1.0	22.2%	1.0	5.5%	2.3	2.0	17.2%
EBIT (RM'm)	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy % chg	4QFY22	qoq % chg	1HFY23 cum	1HFY22 cum	yoy % chg
Multi-Level Marketing	2.4	7.1	-66.3%	3.5	-11.6%	5.1	13.3	-61.7%
Wholesale	1.9	2.0	-7.6%	4.8	-67.2%	7.5	3.4	121.0%
Retail	0.8	0.6	26.2%	0.4	50.5%	1.4	1.0	31.2%
Others	1.0	0.8	25.0%	0.9	53.6%	1.6	1.9	-14.8%
Operating profit margin (%)	2QFY23	2QFY22	yoy % pts chg	4QFY22	qoq % pts chg	1HFY23 cum	1HFY22 cum	yoy % chg
Multi-Level Marketing	11.6%	20.0%	-8.4%	16.1%	-1.0%	12.1%	20.3%	-8.2%
Wholesale	14.5%	17.5%	-3.0%	35.0%	-18.8%	25.2%	15.3%	10.0%
Retail	8.5%	8.2%	0.3%	4.9%	2.3%	7.4%	6.8%	0.6%
Others	82.9%	81.1%	1.8%	86.9%	25.9%	70.3%	96.6%	-26.4%



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Refinitiv ESG Scores













ESG in a nutshell

In 2009, Beshom launched Hai-O Foundation to enhance its corporate social responsibility, focusing on reaching out to local communities, especially underprivileged groups, by championing educational and cultural causes. The foundation has since 2010 organised fundraising campaigns in aid of selected schools. Beshom also established the Hai-O Arts and Culture Grants to encourage the participation of all races in support of Malaysia's arts and culture. Beshom also spearheaded programmes such as "21st Century Smart Classrooms Education", which provided contemporary education tools and equipment to selected schools, and "Clothes of Confidence", supplying school uniforms to underserved communities. In this respect, we believe Beshom has done relatively well in the social (S) pillar. We are also encouraged by its environmentally-friendly initiatives and corporate governance measures as highlighted below. That said, further improvements could be made to strengthen its environment (E) and governance (G) aspects, which could re-rate the stock from an ESG standpoint.

Keep your eye on

As disclosed in its FY22 annual report, only two out of nine (22%) Beshom directors are female. This is fewer than the Malaysian Code of Corporate Governance's (MCCG) recommendation of at least 30% women directors. However, we take comfort from the fact that it had a higher proportion of female representation in its management team (64%) and MLM distributorship (76%) as at end-FY21.

Implications

We view the board composition negatively. However, Beshom aims to make the necessary efforts to appoint additional female directors in the near future to close the gap. Meanwhile, we are positive on the better gender diversity at its management level and in its MLM membership.

ESG highlights

As at end-FY22, Beshom had six independent directors out of its total nine board members (67%). This exceeded the Main Market Listing Requirement of at least one-third of the board comprising independent directors and the MCCG practice of having independent directors account for at least half the board.

Note that Beshom has not been included in the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index nor has it been rated by ESG rating providers such as FTSE Russell and Refinitiv.

Implications

We believe Beshom's overall ESG performance is decent, especially in its governance (G) and social (S) aspects, given its high composition of independent directors and its long-term track record of substantial contribution to community development/wellbeing since the establishment of its corporate social responsibility arm, Hai-O Foundation, in 2009 (e.g. organising charity campaigns to raise funds for selected schools since 2010).

Trends

Beshom has initiated various environmentally-friendly measures over the past years, such as launching its "Sweetality Flexi Pack" green packaging, which enable consumers to reuse their old bottles, in 2022; "LED lighting systems" project (since 2017) to replace the lighting at both its buildings and retail outlets to improve energy efficiency; and launch of "e-membership platform" in 2017 to reduce paper waste materials.

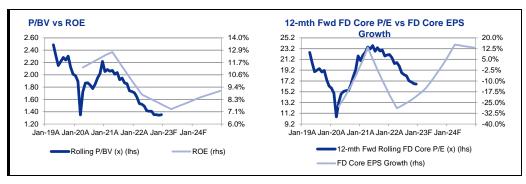
Implications

We are positive on the company's efforts in environmental sustainability. As of FY22, the group recorded electricity savings of >50,000kWh from LED lighting systems, with 580 LED lights installed during the year. As of 30 Apr 2022, 10 out of the group's total 55 retail outlets were fully fitted with LED lighting systems. In FY22, 99.9% of its new members joined via its e-membership platform, resulting in 10% savings in the number of A4 paper reams ordered in FY22 vs. FY21. Nonetheless, we have not ascribed an ESG premium to Beshom's valuations at this juncture as we see room for further improvements in its packaging materials as consumer-packaged goods constitute a large portion of its sales.

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, REFINITIV



BY THE NUMBERS



(RMm)	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
Total Net Revenues	271.4	209.6	214.1	231.1	245.4
Gross Profit	105.2	86.3	78.8	86.7	92.0
Operating EBITDA	58.3	44.6	36.4	41.9	46.4
Depreciation And Amortisation	(6.3)	(6.0)	(6.1)	(6.5)	(6.8)
Operating EBIT	52.0	38.5	30.3	35.4	39.6
Financial Income/(Expense)	0.4	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.7
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	(0.0)	(0.1)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	52.4	38.8	31.3	36.0	40.3
Exceptional Items	(0.1)	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pre-tax Profit	52.3	40.1	31.3	36.0	40.3
Taxation	(13.4)	(10.9)	(7.8)	(9.0)	(10.1)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	38.9	29.2	23.4	27.0	30.2
Minority Interests	(0.1)	(0.7)	(0.0)	0.0	0.0
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	38.8	28.6	23.4	27.0	30.2
Recurring Net Profit	38.9	27.6	23.4	27.0	30.2
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	38.9	27.6	23.4	27.0	30.2

Cash Flow					
(RMm)	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
EBITDA	58.30	44.59	36.41	41.91	46.39
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	2.48	-2.72	-14.26	3.62	1.27
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense	16.91	1.84	1.00	1.00	2.00
Other Operating Cashflow					
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	0.43	-0.22	0.98	0.59	0.65
Tax Paid	-9.22	-14.28	-7.81	-9.01	-10.06
Cashflow From Operations	68.89	29.21	16.33	38.12	40.25
Capex	-1.80	-1.14	-8.00	-3.00	-2.00
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	1.19	2.91	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	-19.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Investing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Investing	-20.11	1.77	-8.00	-3.00	-2.00
Debt Raised/(repaid)	-1.87	-1.73	0.00	0.00	0.00
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares					
Shares Repurchased	-2.53	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dividends Paid	-31.98	-24.21	-24.01	-24.01	-24.01
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	-0.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash Flow From Financing	-37.07	-26.12	-24.01	-24.01	-24.01
Total Cash Generated	11.71	4.86	-15.68	11.11	14.24
Free Cashflow To Equity	46.91	29.25	8.33	35.12	38.25
Free Cashflow To Firm	49.04	31.19	8.38	35.17	38.30

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(RMm)	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
Total Cash And Equivalents	54.3	57.4	35.8	39.1	44.6
Total Debtors	21.7	21.8	16.4	17.1	17.5
Inventories	89.3	89.3	82.3	83.1	81.9
Total Other Current Assets	58.9	59.9	73.4	73.6	79.8
Total Current Assets	224.1	228.5	207.9	212.9	223.9
Fixed Assets	84.6	81.4	81.7	81.8	81.5
Total Investments	44.2	44.1	44.6	44.7	44.8
Intangible Assets	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total Other Non-Current Assets	17.4	16.8	22.6	22.6	21.1
Total Non-current Assets	146.2	142.3	149.0	149.2	147.5
Short-term Debt	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	37.0	33.3	31.5	33.6	35.7
Other Current Liabilities	7.0	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Total Current Liabilities	44.0	38.6	37.3	39.4	41.5
Total Long-term Debt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Total Non-current Liabilities	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Total Provisions	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total Liabilities	46.9	41.3	40.0	42.1	44.2
Shareholders' Equity	313.1	317.5	317.0	320.0	326.2
Minority Interests	10.3	11.9	0.0	0.0	1.0
Total Equity	323.4	329.4	317.0	320.0	327.2

Key Ratios					
	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
Revenue Growth	6.4%	(22.8%)	2.2%	8.0%	6.2%
Operating EBITDA Growth	17.2%	(23.5%)	(18.3%)	15.1%	10.7%
Operating EBITDA Margin	21.5%	21.3%	17.0%	18.1%	18.9%
Net Cash Per Share (RM)	0.18	0.19	0.12	0.13	0.15
BVPS (RM)	1.04	1.06	1.06	1.07	1.09
Gross Interest Cover	196.9	179.3	605.5	709.0	792.0
Effective Tax Rate	25.5%	27.2%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	68%	88%	102%	89%	80%
Accounts Receivables Days	30.32	37.89	32.61	26.54	25.72
Inventory Days	200.5	264.6	231.5	209.5	196.4
Accounts Payables Days	89.1	104.2	87.4	82.5	82.5
ROIC (%)	24.6%	16.9%	13.1%	14.8%	16.5%
ROCE (%)	16.6%	12.0%	9.7%	11.3%	12.4%
Return On Average Assets	10.5%	7.4%	6.2%	7.4%	8.1%

Key Drivers					
	Apr-21A	Apr-22A	Apr-23F	Apr-24F	Apr-25F
SG&A (% of revenue)	10.0%	12.0%	13.5%	13.0%	12.5%
MLM segment yoy revenue growth	0.1	(0.2)	(0.2)	0.1	0.1
MLM segment online sales growth	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	-
Whole segment yoy revenue growth	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Retail segment yoy revenue growth	(0.0)	(0.0)	0.1	0.1	0.0
MLM member assumption ('000)	890.0	770.0	1,000.0	1,200.0	1,100.0
MLM member yoy growth	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.3	0.2	(0.5)
Revenue per member	1,937.6	1,791.7	1,062.3	973.8	1,168.5
Revenue per member yoy growth	0.4	(0.1)	(0.4)	(0.1)	0.2

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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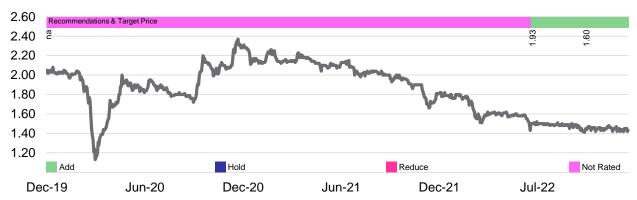
•					
istribution of stock ratings and investment banking clients for quarter ended on 30 September 2022					
646 companies under coverage for quarter ended on 30 September 2022					
	Rating Distribution (%)	Investment Banking clients (%)			
Add	66.7%	0.6%			
Hold	25.2%	0.2%			
Reduce	8.0%	0.2%			



Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)

Beshom Holdings Bhd (BESHOM MK)

----Price Close



Recommendation	Framework
Stock Ratings	Definition:
Add	The stock's total return is expected to exceed 10% over the next 12 months.
Hold	The stock's total return is expected to be between 0% and positive 10% over the next 12 months.
Reduce	The stock's total return is expected to fall below 0% or more over the next 12 months.
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Overweight	An Overweight rating means investors should be positioned with an above-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.
Neutral	A Neutral rating means investors should be positioned with a neutral weight in this country relative to benchmark.
Underweight	An Underweight rating means investors should be positioned with a below-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.