

#### Thursday, May 30, 2024

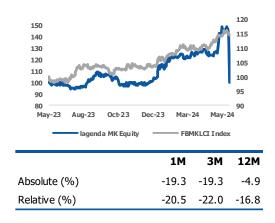
### Team Coverage

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| Recommendation:          | HOLD              |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Current Price:           | RM 1.17           |
| Previous Target Price:   | RM 1.79           |
| Target Price:            | ↓ RM 1.12         |
| Upside/Downside:         | -4.3%             |
| Stock information        |                   |
| Board                    | MAIN              |
| Sector                   | Property          |
| Bursa / Bloomberg Code   | 7179 / LAGENDA MK |
| Syariah Compliant        | Yes               |
| FTSE4Good Index          | Yes               |
| FTSE ESG Rating          | ☆★★★              |
| Bloomberg ESG Rating     | N/A               |
| Shares issued (m)        | 837.3             |
| Market Cap (RM' m)       | 979.7             |
| 52-Week Price Range (RM) | 1.15-1.77         |
| Beta (x)                 | 0.8               |
| Free float (%)           | 45.0              |
| 3M Average Volume (m)    | 1.0               |
| 3M Average Value (RM' m) | 1.6               |
| Top 3 Shareholders       | (%)               |
| Lagenda Land Sdn Bhd     | 51.6              |
| Ocbc Securities Pvt Ltd  | 9.6               |
| Ubs Ag Singapore         | 4.2               |

Share Price Performance



# Lagenda Properties Berhad

## Business as usual, but reputation tarnished

### Summary

- Hit by unexpected news over a senior management was detained by MACC to assist in investigation into the alleged subdivision of 650-ha of Malay reserve land into non-Malay land in Manjung, Sitiawan, Perak.
- While business operations are uninterrupted, we opine that the investigation has indirectly tarnished LAGENDA's reputation and key management team are proactively addressing key stakeholders' queries regards to financial impact, business operations and Group sustainability.
- Maintain our HOLD recommendation with lower fair value of RM1.12, based on 50% discount to RNAV, to reflect the weak effective management practice.

### Company Update

- Matters arising. Yesterday, LAGENDA share price hit limit down and short selling
  was suspended by Bursa Malaysia. The weakness in share price was affected by an
  unexpected news over a senior management was detained by MACC for a period of
  four days to assist in its investigation into the alleged subdivision of 650-ha of Malay
  reserve land into non-Malay land in Manjung, Sitiawan, Perak.
- Key takeaways from small group briefing. Post briefing yesterday evening that was attended c.60 pax for approximately an hour, we gather that LAGENDA is not involved in the investigation matter as LAGENDA has denied any involvement in the said land deal. We gather that transaction of the said land was carried out in 2012, long before LAGENDA was incorporated and its not part of LAGENDA's past and current landbank. Therefore, any potential charges from the investigation will not impact LAGENDA as the said land was not own by LAGENDA. Also, there would be no impact on current business operations.
- Taking the helm. Mr. Andy Chua, the Executive Director whom possess c.30 years
  of experience in the property industry will be the caretaker for the Group for the
  time being. Looking ahead, all senior management of LAGENDA will fully comply
  with any potential further investigations.
- **Impact**. While business operations remain as usual, we opine the investigation has indirectly tarnished LAGENDA's reputation. In bid to restore investors' confidence, current key management are proactively addressing key stakeholders' queries in regards to financial impact, business operations and the Group's sustainability.
- Valuation. Given that the investigation may not have any material impact, we made no changes to our earnings forecast for the time being. However, we reduced our target price of RM1.12, based on a higher discount rate at 50% (from 20%) to RNAV. The revision of discount is to reflect the weak effective management practices. Still, a potential upward re-rating is on the cards, should the investigation yield a favourable outcome and consequently restores LAGENDA reputation.
- **Risk**. Economy's sluggishness, inability to secure more land, rising construction costs beyond expectations, and changes in housing as well as property regulations.



#### Thursday, May 30, 2024

#### **Financial Highlights**

| Income Statement            |       |       |       |        |        |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| FYE Dec (RM m)              | FY21  | FY22  | FY23  | FY24F  | FY25F  |
| Revenue                     | 835.6 | 866.9 | 834.9 | 1089.9 | 1304.6 |
| Gross Profit                | 324.1 | 319.8 | 302.3 | 394.6  | 472.4  |
| EBITDA                      | 265.4 | 236.1 | 191.2 | 327.0  | 391.4  |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | -2.4  | -3.4  | -5.0  | -6.4   | -8.3   |
| EBIT                        | 263.0 | 232.7 | 186.2 | 320.6  | 383.0  |
| Net Finance Income/ (Cost)  | 16.0  | 18.8  | 24.0  | 21.3   | 21.9   |
| Associates & JV             | 0.0   | 0.0   | 2.3   | 2.3    | 2.3    |
| Pre-tax Profit              | 279.1 | 251.5 | 212.6 | 272.5  | 326.1  |
| Тах                         | -77.6 | -73.3 | -64.4 | -68.1  | -81.5  |
| Profit After Tax            | 201.5 | 178.2 | 148.1 | 204.4  | 244.6  |
| M inority Interest          | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.2   | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| Net Profit                  | 201.5 | 178.3 | 148.3 | 204.4  | 244.6  |
| Exceptionals                | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| Core Net Profit             | 201.5 | 178.3 | 148.3 | 204.4  | 244.6  |

#### Key Ratios

| FYE Dec (RM m) | FY21       | FY22       | FY23     | FY24F | FY25F    |
|----------------|------------|------------|----------|-------|----------|
| EBITDA margin  | 31.8%      | 27.2%      | 22.9%    | 30.0% | 30.0%    |
| EBIT margin    | 31.5%      | 26.8%      | 22.3%    | 29.4% | 29.4%    |
| PBT margin     | 33.4%      | 29.0%      | 25.5%    | 25.0% | 25.0%    |
| PAT margin     | 24.1%      | 20.6%      | 17.7%    | 18.8% | 18.8%    |
| NP margin      | 24.1%      | 20.6%      | 17.8%    | 18.8% | 18.8%    |
| Core NP margin | 24.1%      | 20.6%      | 17.8%    | 18.8% | 18.8%    |
| ROE            | 22.9%      | 17.5%      | 13.5%    | 16.3% | 17.0%    |
| ROA            | 13.9%      | 10.0%      | 6.6%     | 9.2%  | 9.9%     |
| Net gearing    | Net Cash N | let Cash N | let Cash | 3.4%  | Net Cash |

#### Key Assumptions

| 10.0%         |
|---------------|
| 0.84          |
| 4.0%          |
| 1866.2        |
|               |
|               |
| FY25F         |
| FY25F<br>2.23 |
|               |
|               |

Source: Company, Apex Securities

| FYE Dec (RM m)                | FY21   | FY22   | FY23     | FY24F     | FY25F  |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Cash                          | 229.4  | 441.8  | 321.5    | 265.4     | 384.8  |
| Receivables                   | 324.4  | 245.4  | 193.0    | 209.0     | 214.5  |
| Inventories                   | 450.8  | 472.0  | 700.9    | 708.6     | 754.7  |
| Other current assets          | 222.3  | 346.4  | 340.9    | 327.0     | 391.4  |
| Total Current Assets          | 1226.8 | 1505.7 | 1556.3   | 15 10 . 0 | 1745.4 |
| Fixed Assets                  | 11.1   | 17.2   | 41.9     | 57.4      | 75.1   |
| Intangibles                   | 51.2   | 51.2   | 51.2     | 51.2      | 51.2   |
| Other non-current assets      | 184.8  | 228.0  | 619.7    | 619.7     | 619.7  |
| Total Non-current assets      | 221.4  | 270.8  | 687.2    | 702.6     | 720.4  |
| Short-term Debt               | 42.6   | 193.1  | 193.2    | 202.8     | 213.0  |
| Payables                      | 195.5  | 178.8  | 557.5    | 591.2     | 616.5  |
| Other Current Liabilities     | 145.2  | 193.1  | 259.6    | 7.0       | 8.3    |
| Total Current Liabilities     | 401.7  | 566.2  | 10 16 .2 | 808.0     | 846.1  |
| Long-term Debt                | 159.1  | 193.1  | 116.4    | 104.8     | 94.3   |
| Other non-current liabilities | 6.7    | 1.1    | 9.1      | 28.7      | 69.5   |
| Total Non-current Liabilities | 165.9  | 194.2  | 125.6    | 133.5     | 163.8  |
| Shareholder's equity          | 1132.2 | 1366.0 | 1537.2   | 1837.0    | 2217.4 |
| M inority interest            | 0.0    | 0.0    | -0.2     | -0.2      | -0.2   |

1016.2

1251.6

14 4 1.8

110 1.6

**Balance Sheet** 

**Total Equity** 

#### Cash Flow FYE Dec (RM m) FY21 FY22 FY23 FY24F FY25F 326.1 Pre-tax profit 279.1 251.5 212.6 272.5 Depreciation & amortisation 2.4 3.4 5.0 6.4 8.3 Changes in working capital -40.4 -60.5 -8.6 83.0 -129.3 Others -125.1 -31.2 -39.0 12.9 104.5 Operating cash flow 56.8 117.8 94.3 204.7 348.1 Net capex 0.0 9.6 29.7 21.8 26.1 Others -62.0 -52.1 -100.5 -150.0 -200.0 Investing cash flow -62.1 -42.5 -70.8 -128.2 -173.9 Dividends paid -52.7 -62.3 -62.3 -54.4 -54.4 Others 108.5 -187.9 -56.4 42.1 -54.8 42.1 108.5 -187.9 -56.4 Financing cash flow -54.8 Net cash flow 36.8 183.9 -164.3 20.1 119.4 Forex 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Others 3.6 32.2 76.2 0.0 0.0 Beginning cash 188.9 225.8 409.6 245.3 265.4 Ending cash 225.8 409.6 245.3 265.4 384.8

880.6

#### Company Update



#### **APEX SECURITIES BERHAD – CONTACT LIST**

#### APEX SECURITIES BHD

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#### DEALING TEAM

#### **Head Office:**

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# **RESEARCH TEAM**

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# **Institutional Dealing Team:**

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#### **PJ Office:**

General Line: (603) 7620 1118 Azfar Bin Abdul Aziz (Ext 822)

#### **RESEARCH RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK**

#### STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

BUY: Total returns\* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months. **HOLD**: Total returns\* are expected to be within +10% to -10% within the next 12 months. SELL: Total returns\* are expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months. **TRADING BUY:** Total returns\* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 3 months. **TRADING SELL**: Total returns\* are expected to be below -10% within the next 3 months. \*Capital gain + dividend yield

#### SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

**OVERWEIGHT:** The industry defined by the analyst is expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months. **NEUTRAL**: The industry defined by the analyst is expected to be within +10% to -10% within the next 12 months. UNDERWEIGHT: The industry defined by the analyst, is expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months.

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