# **Genting Plantations Berhad**

(2291 | GENP MK) Main | Plantation

# **Downstream Division to Remain Stable**

# **KEY INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Lower contribution due to subdued demand
- Utilization rates has restored gradually in the past 2-months
- No change to our earnings forecast
- Maintain NEUTRAL call with an unchanged TP of RM6.10

**Site Visit to Genting Plantations downstream arm.** We visited Genting Plantation's manufacturing facilities in Sabah recently and reaffirmed our view of the stable prospect for its operation divisions in the near term. Summary of the visit as below:

**Operation.** Notably, GenP has 2 manufacturing arms; a refinery and biodiesel plants, located in Lahad Datu, Sabah. The PO refinery is equipped with an annual capacity of 600,000 Mt and established through a collaboration with Musim Mas Group, where GenP holds a significant 72% shareholding while MusimMas c. 28%. Its primary feedstock is CPO, mainly sourced from its own 6 mills, which in turn, receive their FFB from 14 block estates covering c. 47,554 ha in the Sabah region.

Note that the utilization rate for the refinery in FY23 was less than 30%, which we believe was comparable to its peers. The demand for RBD Palm Olein & Stearin, PFAD were softer due to major importing countries particularly China refiners opting for CPO instead of these PPO products. This shift was primarily attributed to the relatively small spread between the prices of RBDPO and RBDPS against CPO, ranging from USD120-140. As a result, it was not economical for outside refiners to import more PPO; instead, it was more cost-effective to refine it themselves. Broadly, the drop in demand was in line with a weakening trend in the sector's PPO exports, which experienced a 4.0% decline in CY23.

Moving onwards, the utilization rate for this year is anticipated to increase to 35-40%, this is in line with the recovery global economic activity, which has translated in a past 2 months UR. Meanwhile, its Biodiesel demand remain flattish as the Malaysian market embedded B20 blended policy, but most areas in the nation currently still implementing 10% blending rate.

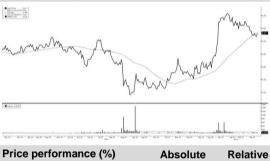
**Recommendation.** We maintain our call and earnings at this juncture, as we deem an improvement in downstream arms will not yet bring noticeable impact to its earnings. We believe GenP's upstream division remains its core strength, and the share price potentially benefited from the CPO upward trajectory in 2QCY24 in light of anticipated Mild El-Nino that could reach RM4,400 level. Maintain **NEUTRAL** call with unchanged **TP** of **RM6.10** derived from PER of 19.5x (nearly 5y average historical mean) pegging on FY24F EPS of 31.3sen.

# Corporate Update | Friday, 08 March 2024 *Maintain* NEUTRAL

# Unchanged Target Price: RM6.10

| RETURN STATISTICS               |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Price @ 7 Mar 2024 (RM)         | 6.13 |
| Expected share price return (%) | -0.5 |
| Expected dividend yield (%)     | +2.5 |
| Expected total return (%)       | +2.0 |

### SHARE PRICE CHART



| Price performance (%) | Absolute | Relative |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 1 month               | -2.1     | -3.4     |
| 3 months              | 7.7      | 3.0      |
| 12 months             | 1.4      | -3.6     |
|                       |          |          |

### INVESTMENT STATISTICS

| FYE Sep           | 2023A   | 2024F   | 2025F   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Revenue           | 2,966.5 | 2,524.7 | 2,326.4 |
| EBITDA            | 435.7   | 465.8   | 535.4   |
| Profit Before Tax | 384.1   | 354.3   | 408.1   |
| Core PATAMI       | 253.5   | 281.1   | 322.5   |
| Core EPS          | 25.1    | 31.3    | 35.9    |
| DPS               | 21.0    | 15.0    | 15.0    |
| Dividend Yield    | 3.4%    | 2.4%    | 2.4%    |

| KEY STATISTICS                    |               |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| FBM KLCI 1,535.8                  |               |  |  |
| Issue shares (m)                  | 897.2         |  |  |
| Estimated free float (%)          | 18.5          |  |  |
| Market Capitalisation (RM'm)      | 5,490.6       |  |  |
| 52-wk price range                 | RM5.11-RM6.48 |  |  |
| 3-mth average daily volume (m)    | 0.6           |  |  |
| 3-mth average daily value (RM'm)  | 3.7           |  |  |
| Top Shareholders (%)              |               |  |  |
| Progressive Holdings Sdn Bhd 54.4 |               |  |  |
| EPF                               | 13.2          |  |  |
| Amanah Saham Nasional             |               |  |  |

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# **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

| Income Statement (RM'm)                | 2021A   | 2022A   | 2023A   | 2024F   | 2025F    |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Revenue                                | 3,130.2 | 3,189.8 | 2,966.5 | 2,524.7 | 2,326.4  |
| EBITDA                                 | 942.6   | 976.2   | 435.7   | 465.8   | 535.4    |
| PBT                                    | 670.4   | 688.9   | 384.1   | 354.3   | 408.1    |
| PATAMI                                 | 432.2   | 471.4   | 253.5   | 281.1   | 322.5    |
| Core PATAMI                            | 385.4   | 457.1   | 253.5   | 281.1   | 322.5    |
| EPS (sen)                              | 43.0    | 50.9    | 25.1    | 31.3    | 35.9     |
| PER (x)                                | 14.3    | 12.0    | 21.7    | 19.6    | 17.1     |
| DPS (sen)                              | 30.0    | 34.0    | 21.0    | 15.0    | 15.0     |
| Dividend yield (%)                     | 4.2     | 5.5     | 3.4     | 2.4     | 2.4      |
| Balance Sheet (RM'm)                   | 2021A   | 2022A   | 2023A   | 2024F   | 2025F    |
| PPE                                    | 4,365.3 | 4,389.6 | 4,628.7 | 4,717.6 | 4,869.1  |
| Land held for property development     | 365.4   | 372.7   | 397.0   | 372.7   | 372.7    |
| Investment properties                  | 21.9    | 18.4    | 16.6    | 18.4    | 18.4     |
| Non-current assets                     | 6,253.8 | 6,328.7 | 6,680.1 | 6,656.7 | 6,808.2  |
| Property development costs             | 11.5    | 8.1     | 23.1    | 23.1    | 23.1     |
| Inventories                            | 180.2   | 270.4   | 193.0   | 169.6   | 147.5    |
| Trade & other receivables              | 634.3   | 541.5   | 519.6   | 511.6   | 471.4    |
| Current assets                         | 2,510.1 | 2,463.1 | 1,887.0 | 2,054.8 | 1,893.8  |
| Total Assets                           | 8,764.0 | 8,791.8 | 8,567.1 | 8,711.5 | 8,702.0  |
| Trade and other payables               | 431.0   | 539.5   | 465.3   | 405.6   | 352.8    |
| Amount due to ultimate holding company | 2.9     | 1.8     | 4.1     | 4.1     | 4.1      |
| Current liabilities                    | 843.1   | 1,144.5 | 1,004.6 | 944.9   | 892.1    |
| Borrowings                             | 2,171.9 | 1,831.6 | 1,554.3 | 1,213.7 | 857.0    |
| Lease liabilities                      | 9.7     | 7.8     | 10.8    | 10.8    | 10.8     |
| Non-current liabilities                | 2,625.2 | 2,338.2 | 2,127.6 | 1,787.0 | 1,430.93 |
| Equity                                 | 5,295.7 | 5,309.2 | 5,434.9 | 5,651.9 | 5,839.8  |
| Liabilities & equity                   | 8,764.0 | 8,791.8 | 8,567.1 | 8,711.5 | 8,702.0  |
| Cash Flow (RM'm)                       | 2021A   | 2022A   | 2023A   | 2024F   | 2025F    |
| PBT                                    | 670.4   | 688.9   | 384.1   | 354.3   | 408.1    |
| Cash flow from operations              | 951.2   | 958.3   | 656.1   | 541.5   | 591.4    |
| Cash flow from investing               | 208.5   | (397.4) | (408.6) | (397.0) | (404.6)  |
| Cash flow from financing               | (474.3) | (615.8) | (776.3) | (475.2) | (404.0)  |
| Net cash flow                          | 685.4   | (54.9)  | (528.8) | (145.3) | (98.7)   |
| Net cash/(debt) b/f                    | 943.6   | 1,630.3 | 1,575.8 | 1,048.6 | 1,192.3  |
| Net cash/(debt) c/f                    | 1,630.3 | 1,575.8 | 1,048.6 | 1,192.3 | 1,093.6  |
|  | .,      | .,      | .,      | .,      | .,       |
| Profitability Margins                  | 2021A   | 2022A   | 2023A   | 2024F   | 2025F    |
| EBITDA margin                          | 30.1%   | 30.6%   | 14.7%   | 18.4%   | 23.0%    |
| PBT margin                             | 21.4%   | 21.6%   | 12.9%   | 14.0%   | 17.5%    |
| Core PATMI margin                      | 12.3%   | 14.3%   | 8.5%    | 11.1%   | 13.9%    |
| Effective tax rate                     | 29.8%   | 29.8%   | 30.8%   | 20.7%   | 21.0%    |
|  |         |         |         |         |          |

Source: Bloomberg, MIDFR



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#### MIDF AMANAH INVESTMENT BANK: GUIDE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

| STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| BUY   | Total return is expected to be >10% over the next 12 months.   |  |
| TRADING BUY   | Stock price is expected to <i>rise</i> by >10% within 3-months after a Trading Buy rating has been assigned due to positive newsflow.  |  |
| NEUTRAL   | Total return is expected to be between -10% and +10% over the next 12 months.  |  |
| SELL  | Total return is expected to be <-10% over the next 12 months.  |  |
| TRADING SELL  | Stock price is expected to <i>fall</i> by >10% within 3-months after a Trading Sell rating has been assigned due to negative newsflow. |  |
| SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS  |  |  |
| POSITIVE  | The sector is expected to outperform the overall market over the next 12 months.   |  |
| NEUTRAL   | The sector is to perform in line with the overall market over the next 12 months.  |  |
| NEGATIVE  | The sector is expected to underperform the overall market over the next 12 months.   |  |
| ESG RECOMMENDATIONS* - source Bursa Malaysia and FTSE Russell |  |  |
| ***   | Top 25% by ESG Ratings amongst PLCs in FBM EMAS that have been assessed by FTSE Russell  |  |
| ☆☆☆   | Top 26-50% by ESG Ratings amongst PLCs in FBM EMAS that have been assessed by FTSE Russell   |  |
| ☆☆  | Top 51%- 75% by ESG Ratings amongst PLCs in FBM EMAS that have been assessed by FTSE Russell   |  |
| *   | Bottom 25% by ESG Ratings amongst PLCs in FBM EMAS that have been assessed by FTSE Russell   |  |
|   |  |  |

\* ESG Ratings of PLCs in FBM EMAS that have been assessed by FTSE Russell in accordance with FTSE Russell ESG Ratings Methodology