

CEO Observations

November 5, 2018

Moderate slowdown but outlook remains favourable for sustained business growth and higher returns

- 3Q results demonstrate franchise strength and path towards 13% ROE
- Economic slowdown moderate, conditions still favourable for growth
 - > Trade war impact mostly on market sentiment, not directly on economy yet
 - China deleveraging a concern but not significant
- Two to four US rate hikes next year to translate into USD strength and high pass-through to Singapore and Hong Kong interest rates
- Mid-single-digit loan growth and continued NIM progression in 2019
- Asset quality stable with expected moderate deterioration in SME portfolio as interest rates rise



Underlying net interest margin up 3bp on quarter from higher interest rates in Singapore and Hong Kong



