CMB International Global Markets | Equity Research | Company Update

## ZhongAn (6060 HK)

# 1H earnings a clear beat; ZA Bank turned profit faster than expected; raise TP to HK\$23

ZhongAn delivered strong 1H results, with net profit surging 11.04x YoY to RMB 668mn, translating to 66% of our previous full-year forecasts driven by significant profit uplifts in all three core business segments. For P&C insurance, 1H25 CoR dropped 2.3pct YoY to 95.6%, with comprehensive loss ratio down 6pct YoY to 54.7% offset by a rise of comprehensive expense ratio by 3.7pct YoY to 40.9%, which led to a more-than-doubled underwriting profit of RMB 627mn (+123%). ZA Bank turned a net profit of HK\$49mn in 1H25, ahead of the market expectation for breakeven by year-end. Technology business reduced net loss by 32.2% YoY to RMB 56mn, driven by continued digital transformation for operating efficiency. Total/net investment yields remained stable at 3.3%/2.1% in 1H25. Considering outperforming P&C insurance and ZA Bank profitability and a full-year breakeven guidance for the tech business, we revise up our FY25-27E EPS forecasts to RMB0.80/0.94/1.08 (previous: RMB 0.67/0.75/0.88), and revise up our SOTP-based TP to HK\$23 (prev. HK\$20.4), implying 1.5x FY25E P/B. Maintain BUY.

- P&C UWP more than doubled with improved CoR across ecosystems. In 1H25, total premiums grew 9.3% YoY to RMB16.7bn thanks to significant uplifts of health/auto/consumer finance premiums (up by 38.3%/34.2%/23.6% YoY). Digital lifestyle GWP slid 16.3% YoY to RMB6.2bn due to sluggish e-commerce shipping return policy. Innovative business sustained strong demands with total GWP rising 40% YoY to RMB2.49bn, supported by growth of pet (+53%) and low-altitude economy premiums (+20%). P&C CoR improved 2.3pct YoY to 95.6%, given an enhanced loss ratio (down 6pct YoY to 54.7%), offset by a rising expense ratio (up 3.7pct YoY to 40.9%). To break down, the CoR of consumer finance/health/auto ecosystems was 94%/92.9%/91.2%, down 5.1pct/2.8pct/3.0pct YoY respectively. Underwriting profit surged 123% YoY to RMB627mn in 1H25, with consumer finance/health/auto rising 611%/95%/91% YoY. We revise down our FY25E CoR forecast to 96.6% (prev. 96.9%), to reflect the strengthened UW profitability across lines amid changes of premium mix.
- ZA Bank's breakeven faster than expected. ZA Bank turned a net profit of HK\$49mn in 1H25, ahead of market expectation on the bank's profit turnaround by year-end. Net revenue reached HK\$457mn in 1H25, up 82.1% YoY with net interest income/non-interest income up 43%/272% YoY to HK\$297mn/160mn. Net interest margin (NIM) was 2.38%, up 0.1pct YoY, outpacing the industry average given a continuous diversification of the bank's loan products. Cost-to-income ratio was down 52pct YoY to 67% due to improved operating efficiency. With expanding wealth management business, we think the bank's revenue mix could further diversify with a higher contribution of non-interest income (1H25: 54%, up 43pct from end-FY24), which could help reduce the interest rate sensitivity to the US Fed's pivot in 2H25E, in our view. We raise our forecast on ZA Bank net profit to HK\$82mn in FY25E, given a more balanced earnings profile, enhanced wealth management balance and upside from the HK stablecoin issuer license approvals in 2H25E to further increase the bank's reserve assets.
- New TP raised to HK\$23. The stock is trading at 1.28x FY25E P/B, higher than its 3-year average by 0.4STD (*Fig.4*). Given outperforming P&C underwriting profits and faster-than-expected ZA Bank turnaround, we raise our SOTP-derived TP to HK\$23.0 (prev. HK\$20.4), based on 1) 1.31x P/B for domestic P&C insurance by referring to a 10% discount on P/B of PICC P&C; 2) 15x P/E (unchanged) for domestic tech export, and 1.0x ARR multiple for Peak 3; and 3) 2.8x FY25E P/B for ZA Bank by benchmarking to global digital banks (*Fig.2*).

### **Earnings Summary**

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(YE 31 Dec)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net profit (RMB mn)	3,845	603	1,209	1,479	1,775
EPS (Reported)(RMB)	2.77	0.41	0.80	0.94	1.08
Consensus EPS (RMB)	n.a	n.a	0.68	0.79	0.98
Combined ratio (%)	95.2	96.9	96.6	96.5	96.5
P/B (x)	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
ROE (%)	22.8	2.9	5.6	6.4	7.2

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates | Note: stock price data by market close on Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **BUY (Maintain)**

 Target Price
 HK\$23.00

 (Previous TP
 HK\$20.40)

 Up/Downside
 14.3%

 Current Price
 HK\$20.12

#### China Insurance

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#### Stock Data

Mkt Cap (HK\$ mn)	30,293.6
Avg 3 mths t/o (HK\$ mn)	1,465.7
52w High/Low (HK\$)	21.90/9.41
Total Issued Shares (mn)	1505.6

Source: FactSet

### **Shareholding Structure**

Ant Group Co., Ltd.	9.3%
Ping An Insurance Group	9.2%
Source: HKEx	

#### **Share Performance**

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	-4.6%	-6.3%
3-mth	61.7%	45.8%
6-mth	65.7%	47.8%

Source: FactSet

### 12-mth Price Performance



Source: FactSet

### Auditor:

PricewaterhouseCoopers

### Related reports:

- 1. Placement may cause limited downside despite short-term volatilities, Jun 26, 2025
- 2. HK Stablecoins outlook opens up the headroom for valuation re-rating; uplift TP to HK\$20.4, Jun 3 2025
- 3. <u>Tech export out of the red; ZA Bank on track for breakeven</u>, 24 Mar 2025
- 4. <u>Digital lifestyle leading growth; ZA Bank</u> and technology export breakeven on track, 28 Mar 2024
- 5. Strong investment and UW profits drive 1H23 earnings turnaround, Aug 28, 2023



### **Key forecasts change**

Figure 1: Forecast revisions of key operating and financial metrics

			Current			Old			Chg (%)	
(RMB mn, %)	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EPS	0.41	0.80	0.94	1.08	0.67	0.75	0.88	20.0%	24.4%	21.8%
D0 0 In										
P&C Insurance:										
GWP	33,417	37,260	41,007	45,332	38,283	42,413	46,876	-2.7%	-3.3%	-3.3%
Insurance revenue	31,746	35,436	38,994	43,101	36,463	40,397	44,642	-2.8%	-3.5%	-3.5%
UWP	899	1,113	1,259	1,422	1,007	1,168	1,353	10.6%	7.8%	5.1%
COR	96.9%	96.6%	96.5%	96.5%	96.9%	96.8%	96.7%	-0.3pct	-0.3pct	-0.2pct
Technology:										
Net profit	78	126	183	254	141	194	259	-10.7%	-5.8%	-2.0%
Banking:										
_										
Net profit	-92	33	124	217	1	50	109	4193%	147%	100%

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates



### Valuation

Figure 2: Sum-of-the-parts for ZhongAn Online to derive our new TP at HK\$23.0

	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
P&C Insurance				
Book Value (RMB bn)	19.6	20.4	21.2	22.3
P/B(x)		1.31x	1.31x	1.31x
Fair value (HK\$ bn)		28.7	29.9	31.4
Technology				
Net profit (RMB bn)	0.08	0.13	0.18	0.25
Domestic tech export (80%)		1.6	2.4	3.3
P/E(x)		15.0x	15.0x	15.0x
Overseas tech export (20%)		0.2	0.2	0.3
ARR (HK\$ mn)	0.17	0.20	0.23	0.27
ARR multiple (x)		1.0x	1.0x	1.0x
Fair value, combined (HK\$ bn)		1.8	2.6	3.6
Banking				
Book Value (RMB mn)	0.82	0.85	0.98	1.20
P/B(x)		2.8x	2.8x	2.8x
Fair value (HK\$ bn)		2.6	3.0	3.7
Others	(0.8)	(0.5)	(0.2)	0.0
Total valuation (HK\$ bn)		32.7	35.3	38.6
No. of shares outstanding (bn)		1.5	1.5	1.6
Price per share (HK\$)		22.3	23.2	24.0
	-			
12mth forward TP (HK\$)		23.0		
Implied P/E (x)		26.5x		
Implied P/B (x)		1.49x		
Previous TP (HK\$)		20.4		
Change (%)		12.7%		



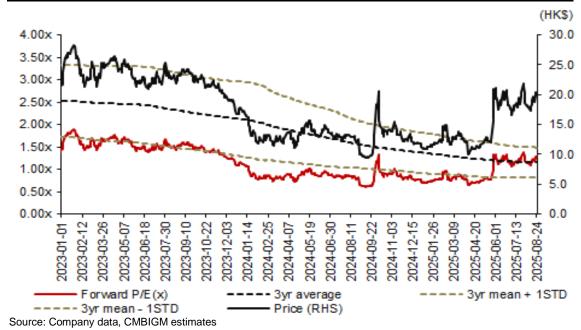
### Peers comparable

Figure 3: Global listed digital banks and 12mth forward P/B(x) valuation

Company	Ticker	PX_LAST (LC)	Market Cap (LC)	FY25E EPS	FY25E P/B	FY26E P/B	FY27E P/B
US companies:							
Upstart Holdings Inc	UPST US Equity	68.85	6.6	1.65	8.7x	7.0x	5.6x
NU Holdings Ltd/Cayman Islands	NU US Equity	13.94	67.4	0.58	6.3x	4.7x	3.6x
SLM Corp	SLM US Equity	31.73	6.6	3.10	2.9x	2.5x	2.1x
Credit Acceptance Corp	CACC US Equity	506.49	5.7	39.40	3.3x	2.3x	1.8x
SoFi Technologies Inc	SOFI US Equity	25.02	30.0	0.31	3.6x	3.4x	3.1x
Enova International Inc	ENVA US Equity	113.98	2.9	12.11	2.2x	1.7x	
OneMain Holdings Inc	OMF US Equity	60.17	7.2	6.40	2.1x	1.9x	1.6x
Synchrony Financial	SYF US Equity	73.20	27.2	8.53	1.8x	1.6x	1.4x
Nelnet Inc	NNI US Equity	130.27	4.7	7.10	1.3x	1.2x	
Inter & Co Inc	INTR US Equity	8.08	3.6	3.15	0.4x	0.3x	0.3x
JP companies:							
SBI Sumishin Net Bank Ltd	7163 JP Equity	4875	735.1	253.62	3.6x	3.0x	2.6x
Rakuten Group Inc	4755 JP Equity	893	1,934.2	(51.72)	2.4x	2.4x	2.4x
Seven Bank Ltd	8410 JP Equity	289	340.7	16.28	1.2x	1.2x	1.1x
South Korea comp	oany:						
KakaoBank Corp	323410 KS Equity	25,250	12,044	1,210.00	1.7x	1.6x	
Australia company:							
Judo Capital Holdings Ltd	JDO AU Equity	1.79	2.0	0.11	1.1x	1.0x	0.9x
				Average	2.8x	2.4x	2.2x

Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 4: ZhongAn's trading P/B(x) is 0.4std higher than its 3-year average P/B at 1.15x





### **Financial Summary**

INCOME STATEMENT	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Insurance revenue	22,189	27,535	31,744	35,434	38,993	43,099
Insurance service expenses	(20,673)	(26,089)	(30,690)	(34,154)	(37,558)	(41,493)
Net expenses from reinsurance contracts held	(99)	(109)	(14)	(17)	(19)	(21)
Insurance service results	1,417	1,337	1,040	1,264	1,416	1,585
Net finance (expenses)/income from insurance contracts	(145)	(52)	(52)	(57)	(63)	(70)
Net finance (expenses)/income from reinsurance contracts	(10)	8	2	0	0	0
Net investment income	1,688	4,136	437	1,345	1,455	1,575
Other gains/(losses) from changes in fair value	(1,803)	768	1,024	172	181	191
Net investment results	(115)	4,904	1,460	1,516	1,636	1,766
Other income	1,129	1,135	1,032	1,186	1,353	1,545
Other expenses	(2,966)	(2,670)	(1,952)	(2,047)	(2,206)	(2,390)
Foreign exchange gains/losses	(549)	(95)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)
Other results	(2,814)	(2,094)	(1,466)	(1,384)	(1,355)	(1,326)
Profit before tax	(1,683)	4,010	854	1,354	1,649	1,972
Income taxes	298	(165)	(251)	(145)	(170)	(197)
Net profit	(1,384)	3,845	603	1,209	1,479	1,775
Net profit attributable to shareholders	(1,112)	4,078	603	1,209	1,479	1,775

BALANCE SHEET	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
ASSETS						
Intangible assets	662	527	619	619	619	619
Investments in associates and joint ventures	554	5,297	5,591	5,591	5,591	5,591
Property	434	377	798	798	798	798
Reinsurance contract assets	595	762	710	726	756	800
At amortized cost:	1,431	1,452	1,051	1,105	1,162	1,222
At fair value through profit or loss:	21,863	22,252	20,706	21,930	23,224	24,593
Loans and advances to customers	4,367	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	1,702	2,104	2,692	2,720	2,749	2,780
Cash and cash equivalents	3,526	1,576	1,467	2,970	4,834	7,399
Total assets	47,649	42,864	45,285	47,072	48,961	50,957
LIABILITIES						
Insurance contract liabilities	4,029	3,335	5,000	5,500	6,050	6,655
Borrowings	6,805	6,900	6,993	7,133	7,275	7,421
Obligations under repurchase agreements	6,992	8,491	7,931	8,724	9,597	10,557
Current tax liabilities	0	27	18	18	18	18
Lease liabilities	374	287	123	135	149	164
Other liabilities	11,819	3,750	4,024	3,355	2,115	539
Total liabilities	30,034	22,790	24,358	24,865	25,203	25,352
EQUITIES						
Share capital	1,470	1,470	1,470	1,541	1,613	1,685
Reserves	16,473	16,732	16,996	16,996	16,996	16,996
Retained profits	(2,176)	1,871	2,461	3,670	5,149	6,924
Total shareholders' equity	15,766	20,073	20,926	22,207	23,758	25,605
Non-controlling interests	1,849	0	0	0	0	0
Total equity	17,615	20,073	20,926	22,207	23,758	25,605
Total liabilities & equity	47,649	42,864	45,285	47,072	48,961	50,957



PER SHARE DATA	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
EPS (Reported)	(0.76)	2.77	0.41	0.80	0.94	1.08
Consensus EPS	n.a	n.a	n.a	0.68	0.79	0.98
No. of shares basic	1,470	1,470	1,470	1,541	1,613	1,685
PROFITABILITY	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
Return on equity (ROE)	n.a	22.8%	2.9%	5.6%	6.4%	7.2%
Combined ratio	94.2%	95.2%	96.9%	96.6%	96.5%	96.5%
Loss ratio	56.2%	56.8%	58.3%	57.2%	57.2%	57.1%
Expense ratio	37.9%	38.4%	38.6%	39.4%	39.3%	39.4%
VALUATION	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
P/B (x)	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates. Note: The calculation of net cash includes financial assets. | Note: The stock price data is quoted by market close on Aug  $25^{th}$ , 2025 (Mon).



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