

# Metals and Mining KazAtomProm

#### «BUY» recommendation

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Ticker	KAP LI
Recommendation	Buy
Current price, \$/share	14.20
Target price (12M), \$/share	16.55
Upside	16%
Ticker	KAP KZ
Recommendation	Buy
Current price, T/share	5 530
Target price (12M), ₹/share	6 205
Upside	
Number of shares (mn)	259.4
Free float (%)	15.0%
Av. daily trade volume (\$mn)	0.9
Market capitalization	3 695.4

Financials (〒 mn)	2017	2018	2019F
Revenue	277 046	436 632	407 334
OPEX	-244 444	-359 152	-355 910
EBITDA adj. *	96 733	131 300	71 986
Net profit *	31 440	66 759	90 119
EPS, ₹/share	n/d	257	347
Cash	239 936	128 819	122 200
Equity	641 176	963 010	987 482
Net cash (debt)	-126 705	71 145	-61 495

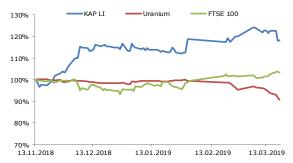
Valuation	2017	2018	2019F
Net Debt/EBITDA adj. (x)	-1.31	0.54	-0.85
Debt/Equity	0.19	0.21	0.06
EV/Sales (x)	n/d	-0.15	0.16
EV/EBITDA (x)	n/d	-0.51	0.91
P/E (x)	n/d	21.48	15.91

KAP LI price change	Abs.	Relative FTSE 100
1M	13.5%	0.1%
3M	n/d	6.6%
6M	n/d	n/d
52W high	15.0	
52W low	11.6	

KAP KZ price change	Abs.	Relative KASE
1M	9.1%	7.0%
3M	4.5%	0.1%
6M	n/d	n/d
52W high	5 600	
52W low	5 025	

Source: company data, Halyk Finance calculations

<sup>\*</sup> adjusted for one-time items



We updated the KAP operating and financial indicators for 2018FY and added to the calculation of the target price a share of participation in associates and joint ventures whose profits are not included in the operating component of the company. Our target price has changed slightly, reaching \$16.55/share versus the previous \$16.50/share. Assessing the company's financial condition as stable and noting that our forecasts correspond to the company's plans, we expect positive cash flows over the next five years. We are also optimistic about the company paying a dividend in the amount of T266/share and recommend to **Buy** KAP shares, waiting for the quotes to strengthen in anticipation of dividend fixation.

**2018FY results.** The company's revenue is above our expectations by 0.4%. The unit cash cost corresponds to the levels declared by the company, despite the fact that high sales of uranium contributed to a more rapid increase in total cost and sales costs compared to our expectations. Noting the main reason for the high costs of increased sales, we estimate the change in the specific cash cost as neutral. Due to higher physical sales and sales prices, as well as due to the strengthening of the dollar, operating profit amounted to 77.5bn tenge, exceeding the figure for 2017 by 138%. Adjusted EBITDA (attributable) rose by 9% to 140bn tenge.

**Dividend attractiveness persists.** According to the dividend policy for 2018, based on 75% of the FCF, KAP may send 12.8bn tenge or 37tenge/share to dividends. However, we believe such a scenario is less likely and we expect the company to follow the scenario of paying an amount equivalent to \$200 million. We expect the company to pay about 69bn tenge and the dividend will be T266/share with a dividend yield of 5%.

Forecasts do not introduce strong changes. Since December last year, there have been no significant changes in the uranium market. UX Consulting's forecasts, which are the main benchmark in forecasting uranium prices, remain at an average level of \$27- \$28/lb in 2019 at current \$27/lb and do not exceed \$30/lb in the next five years. We proceed from the average selling price of uranium for all mining assets at around \$29/lb in 2019-2024 and \$31/lb in 2025. Our production forecast (by shares) for 2019 is 13.7ths tons of uranium, and we expect the volume of uranium sales at the level of 16.5ths tons. We include the cash cost of \$12/lb and revenue for 2019 in the amount of 407bn tenge. We have updated our expectations for the costs of implementation and general and administrative costs based on the projected level of inflation in Kazakhstan in the range of 4% -5%.

**BUY recommendation with 12M TP \$16.5/share.** Our new target price amounts \$16.55/share for KAP LI and T6 205/share for KAP KZ. We assess the company's financial position as stable and note the "currency" nature of revenue at the current tenge rate as a strong base for the company's cash flow. We do not see any prerequisites for a weak pricing environment on the company's financial condition, focusing on low production costs. Noting the strategic role of the KAP for the global uranium industry, we do not see significant risks that can put pressure on sales: about a third of the demand for KAP products is provided by China, which is rather aggressive in its expansion of nuclear energy. From the point of view of short-term investment attractiveness, we consider dividends as the main trigger. Summarizing the updated analysis of 2018, we recommend "Buy" shares of KAP.





Fig. 1 Financial results

Adjusted net income *	31 440	66 759	112%
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	139 154	380 266	-63%
Profit from discontinued operations	2 431	1 104	-55%
Profit from continuing operations	136 723	379 162	177%
Income tax	-17 287	-28 797	67%
Profit before tax	154 010	407 959	165%
Exchange difference	-805	7 250	n/d
Share in the results of joint ventures	22 107	-4 743	-121%
Share in the results of associates	22 007		4%
Financial espenses	-8 933		42%
Financial income	5 815	3 949	-32%
Other expenses	-6 278		-7%
Other income	114 907	1 242	-99%
Net profit from the acquisition of a business	-	313 517	n/d
Losses from the disposal of a subsidiary	-	-511	n/d
Net impairment losses on financial assets	-3 728	<i>-3 770</i>	1%
Impairment losses on non-financial assets	-24 210	-5 848	-76%
Recovery of impairment loss on non- financial assets	526	15 128	2776%
One-time articles:	-27 412	318 516	n/d
G&A	-30 194	-34 805	15%
Sales costs	-4 316	-10 530	144%
Gross profit	67 112	122 815	83%
Cost of sales	-209 934	-313 817	49%
Revenue	277 046	436 632	58%
KZT mn	2017	2018	yoy

\* adjusted for one-time items Source: Company Data

#### The 2018FY results

Following the 2018 results, KAP reported on revenue growth by 58% yoy to 437bn tenge, which was a result of uranium sales growth by 65% yoy to 16.6ths tons and sales price increases in currency by 1% and in tenge by 7% yoy. The average selling price in 2018 was T21 930/kg (\$24.46/lb), showing an increase of 8% yoy.

The cost increased by 49% to 314bn tenge, which was mainly due to the increase in costs for raw materials and materials (+ 41% yoy). At the same time, due to the tenge weakening , the specific cash cost (in terms of the share of participation) narrowed from \$12.02/lb to \$11.56/lb (-4% yoy). Taking into account capital expenditures, cash costs decreased by 6% yoy to \$16.09/lb.

In addition, in the reporting period in comparison with previous years, the company reflected changes in the structure of assets that had a one-time impact on the indicators. The share of participation in Inkai increased from 40% to 60%, in Khorasan-U from 34% to 50%, in Baiken-U from 5% to 52.5% and in Kyzylkum from 30% to 50%, and in Akbastau projects and Karatau have changed the conditions for transactions with Uranium One. According to the KAP calculations, the impact of these changes on net income is positive and amounts to 315bn tenge.

General and administrative expenses increased by 15% due to an increase in employee wages (+ 8% yoy) and expenses for consulting and information services (+ 42% yoy).

A significant increase was observed in sales costs (+144% yoy to 10.5bn tenge) due to increased costs for loading, transporting and storing, which was caused by an increase in sales of uranium products and a change in the structure of assets

Nevertheless, due to higher physical sales and sales prices, as well as due to the strengthening of the dollar, operating profit amounted to 77.5bn tenge, exceeding the 2017 profit by 138%.

Adjusted EBITDA (attributable) rose by 9% to 140bn tenge.

Net income as a result of simultaneous changes, including consolidation of the value of investments and the implementation of the put option in 2017, amounted to 66.8bn tenge, which corresponds to an increase of 11% yoy.

## **Expected dividends calculation**

We estimate the low probability of dividend payment in the amount of 37 tenge/share, which we calculated on the basis of 75% of the FCF value in 2018 in the amount of about 12.8bn tenge.

The payment of an amount equivalent to \$200mn, according to our estimates, is more comparable with the company's plans. We expect the company to pay about 69bn tenge to pay and the dividend will be T266/share.

At the end of 2019, we expect a similar dividend payment scheme. For future periods, we see the point of focusing on the expected FCF. The FCF is calculated according to the CAP by deducting from the CFO all capital costs and adding dividends from associates and joint ventures. According to our calculations, based on the assumption of paying as a dividend to KAP 10% from FCF associates and joint ventures, FCF KAP in 2020-2025 will vary in the range of 67-195bn tenge.

The ratio of net debt to adjusted EBITDA, according to our





forecasts, will also meet the conditions of the dividend policy, according to which the company will send 75% of FCF to the dividend.

So, turning to the net debt forecast, we note that almost the entire KAP debt portfolio (99%) is foreign exchange, in USD, while Debt/Capital is relatively small (0.2x in 2018) (+ 64% yoy) or \$557 (+ 36% yoy). At the same time, most of the company's debt is reflected to maturity in the current year (184bn tenge). The company's net debt is 71bn tenge against net cash in 2017 in the amount of 127bn. According to our forecasts, the company's net debt in 2019 will turn into a positive value (37bn tenge) due to the repayment of most of its short-term liabilities and a reduction in cash to 122bn tenge.

Summarizing the calculations, our dividend forecast for the results of 2018-2025 is as follows:

KZT/share	2018F	2019F	2020F	2021F	2022F	2023F	2024F	2025F	2026F	2027F	2028F
Dividend	266	289	295	481	577	537	638	776	727	627	626

## Forecasts for 2019-2025

Conditions in the uranium market remain vulnerable. The uranium

price since December 2018 has decreased by 7% and now stands at \$27/lb. According to forecasts of UX Consulting, the price of uranium in 2019 will average \$27- \$28/lb. In the next five years, the uranium price, according to UX Consulting, does not exceed \$30/lb. Our expectations in the model are calculated on the basis of forecasts of UX Consulting and the average selling price of uranium for all mining assets in 2019-2024 varies between \$29/lb and \$31/lb in 2025.

According to KAP forecasts for 2019, the level of production by shares will be 13.0-13.5ths tons of uranium, and with sales of 15-16 ths tons, consolidated revenue is expected at the level of 437bn tenge. It should be noted that earlier the company proceeded from the implementation plan of 14ths tons in 2019 KAP expects a slight change in cash cost from \$11.56/lb in 2018 up to \$11/lb - \$12/lb. Total capital investments (on a 100% basis) are planned at 85-95bn.

Our production forecast (attributable) for 2019 is 13.7ths tons of uranium, and we are laying sales of uranium at 16.5ths tons.

We are setting the cash cost at \$12/lb and expect revenue for 2019 in the amount of 407bn tenge.

According to our calculations, capital expenditures for the share of participation will be about 65bn tenge and the average depreciation rate will correspond to previous periods (12%).

We also updated our expectations for the costs of implementation and general and administrative expenses based on the forecast level of inflation in Kazakhstan in the range of 4% -5%, taking into account changes in the volume of sales.

## 12M target price calculation

We still calculate the weighted average cost of capital (WACC) at 10.5%. We are laying a terminal growth rate of 5%, assessing the high growth rate of free cash flows after 2025.

We also take into account the amount of FCF received from shares in associates and joint ventures in the amount of 2.5bn tenge.

Our target price was 16.55/share for KAP LI and T6 205/share for KAP KZ.

We assess the company's financial position as stable and note

Fig. 2. Production and sales

20
18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
2 018 2019F 2020F 2021F 2022F 2023F 2024F 2025F

Source: Halyk Finance Forecasts

Fig. 3. Segment revenue, bn tenge



Source: Halyk Finance Forecasts

the "currency" nature of revenue at the current tenge rate as a strong base for the company's cash flow. We do not see any prerequisites for a weak pricing environment on the company's financial condition, focusing on low production costs. Noting the strategic role of the KAP for the global uranium industry, we do not see significant risks that could put pressure on sales: more than a third of the demand for KAP products is provided by China, whose focus on expanding nuclear energy is rather aggressive. From the point of view of short-term investment attractiveness, we consider dividends as the main trigger. Summarizing the updated analysis on the results of 2018 we recommend to "Buy" KAP shares.

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Fig. 4. Calculation of 12M TP					
∓ mn	2020F	2021F	2022	F	F 2023F
EBITDA adj	123 982	163 191	163 461		154 894
"-Income tax"	-28 795	-28 794	-28 793		-28 792
"-CAPEX"	-65 132	-62 060	-43 368		-53 828
"-Change in working capital"	22 673	2 838	-11 039		-1 803
Free cash flows	52 728	75 175	80 261		70 470
WACC	10.5%				
Discounted cash flows	44 114	56 918	54 995		43 698
∓ mn					
Summ of PV	317 087				
Gordon growth - TV	2 419 217				
PV of terminal value	1 228 250				
Enterprise value	1 545 337				
Joint venture and associates CF	2 523				
Net debt (cash) - 2019	-61 495				
Equity value	1 609 355				
Number of shares outstanding (mn)	259				
Fair value, ₹/share	6 205				
Current price, ₹/share	5 530				
Fair value, \$/share	16.55				
Current price, \$/share	14.20				
Upside	16%				
Recommendation	BUY				

Source: Halyk Finance Calculations





Source: Company Data, Halyk Finance Forecasts





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