

Asia Pacific Equity Research

03 May 2016

Overweight

Price: HK\$2.57 29 Apr 2016

Price Target: HK\$2.50
PT End Date: 31 Dec 2016

Zijin Mining Group - H (2899 HK)

1Q16 results miss - Cancels A-share placement

Zijin Mining (Zijin) announced a disappointing 1Q16 NP of Rmb64m, -85% y/y, a significant miss to Street consensus. The weak result was impacted by hedging and gold leasing losses of Rmb483m. That said, underlying operation continues to perform as unit costs fell and sales volumes are on track to achieve FY16 targets. Separately, Zijin cancelled its A-share placement which, in our view, reduces the company's financial flexibility and M&A growth potential. The shares have rallied 50% from their late January low and +26% YTD, outperforming the broader market (HSCEI -7% YTD). We are OW.

- 1Q16 significant miss, bottom line hit by hedging loss and gold leasing. Zijin reported 1Q16 NP of Rmb64m, -85% y/y (4Q15 net loss Rmb36m), a significant miss against Streets consensus FY16 NP of Rmb2.04bn. Excluding Rmb23m of government grant, Rmb28.8m of non-hedging fair value gain and other non-recurring items, 1Q16 core NP was Rmb48m, -89% y/y (-90% q/q). Zijin continued to report strong volume growth with 1Q16 mined gold output increased to 10.3t, +24% y/y (flat q/q), mined copper increased to 41.7kt, +12% y/y (+32% q/q), mined zinc output climbed to 59kt, +52% y/y (+21% q/q). Revenue climbed to Rmb19.4bn, +22% y/y (+48% q/q), primarily driven by increased refinery gold revenue (+23% y/y, +70% q/q) and mined gold revenue (+36% y/y, +17% q/q). Group GP% improved to 10% (1Q15 9%, 4Q15 6%) as mined gold unit cost (-4% y/y, +8% q/q) and mined copper unit cost (-14% y/y, -31% q/q) fell. Selling expense fell (-3% y/y), due to lower iron ore concentrate shipment and transportation costs. Admin expense increased (+13% y/y, -18% q/q) driven by new projects and acquisitions. Finance cost increased to Rmb278m (+60% y/y, +15% q/q) as a result of lower capitalized interest and increased borrowing. Zijin's 1Q16 bottom line was heavily hit by investment loss of Rmb483m, against 1Q15 Rmb174m gain (4Q15 Rmb451m gain), driven by hedging loss and gold leasing loss.
- FCF negative, net-gearing fell. Zijin reported 1Q16 negative FCF of Rmb325m, against 1Q15 +Rmb446m (4Q15 +Rmb2.97bn), as OCF fell (-68% y/y, -91% q/q). Net gearing (ND/E) improved to 68% (FY15 74%). Meanwhile, ND/EBITDA increased to 4.5x (FY15 3.7x) and interest coverage ratio (EBITDA/finance expense) fell to 4.3x (FY15 6.8x) due to lower EBITDA profits.
- Rmb9bn A-share placement termination reduces acquisition war chest. In a separate announcement, Zijin announced the termination of the Rmb9bn non-public issuance of A-shares. The company cited that the termination was due to drastic changes in the market since 2H15, and investments in most of the projects to be invested by the proceeds raised in the placement have been completed. Despite having minimal impact to Zijin's operation, we view the news as negative as it reduces Zijin's financial flexibility and available resource to fund M&A growth. If the A-share placement was proceeded, we estimate Zijin's net gearing could improve to 31% (from 68%) and the company could realize c.Rmb300m annual saving in interest expense.
- 1H16 results impacted by metals prices volatility. The company did not provide any update to its FY16 target. But the company stated that 建中国新星的复数形式 电电影电影 电影响 and zinc prices, 1H16 results will be significantly impacted. Zijin is on track to deliver its FY16 output target with 1Q16 mined gold output of 10.3t (24% of FY16 target), mined copper output of 41.7kt (27% of FY16 target) and mined zinc of 58.6kt 点击进入的ttp://www.hibor.com.cn

(22% of FY16 target). 2QTD16 metals prices improved with gold prices increased +4.6% q/q, copper +2.2% q/q and zinc +8.4% q/q, which point to a better start of 2Q.

Impact

We expect the market to be disappointed by Zijin's 1Q16 results miss and the termination of A-share placement. That said, with gold prices nearing USD1300/oz, the share price reaction will likely be muted.

Table 2: Zijin's quarterly financial summary

Profit and loss		y									_	QoQ%	YoY%
Rmb Mn	1Q14	2Q14	3Q14	4Q14	2014	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	2015	1Q16	1Q16	1Q16
Operating income	10,762	13,224	16,615	18,160	58,761	15,896	22,937	22,365	13,106	74,304	19,398	48%	22%
Operating costs	-9,267	-10,835	-14,139	-16,641	-50,882	-14,334	-20,681	-20,849	-12,144	-68,008	-17,195	42%	20%
Taxes & surcharge	-161	-216	-242	-219	-838	-201	-215	-198	-196	-810	-204	4%	2%
Gross profit	1,334	2,173	2,234	1,300	7,040	1,361	2,041	1,319	765	5,486	1,998	161%	47%
Selling expenses	-97	-213	-310	-286	-906	-194	-198	-158	-142	-692	-189	33%	-3%
Admin expenses	-521	-586	-540	-529	-2,175	-617	-555	-599	-850	-2,621	-700	-18%	13%
Impairment on assets	-45	-3	-66	-249	-363	-50	-32	-24	-364	-471	3	nm	nm
(Loss)/gain on fair value change	107	-411	392	-229	-141	204	133	-221	-242	-126	-296	22%	nm
Investment income	150	150	7	444	751	174	242	490	451	1,357	-483	nm	nm
Non OP income	28	44	42	123	237	39	63	47	269	419	33	-88%	-15%
Non OP expenses	-52	-72	-58	-191	-373	-27	-81	-34	-135	-277	-33	-76%	20%
EBIT	904	1,083	1,700	383	4,071	890	1,614	820	-247	3,076	333	nm	-63%
Financial expenses	-127	-122	-271	-247	-768	-174	-260	-269	-242	-946	-278	15%	60%
Share of profits of associates	46	66	-49	-42	21	-109	-53	-111	229	-44	55	-76%	nm
PBT	823	1,026	1,380	94	3,324	606	1,300	439	-260	2,086	111	nm	-82%
Income tax	-240	-247	-365	163	-689	-201	-296	-171	-76	-743	-29	-62%	-86%
Minority interest	-63	-191	-156	119	-290	10	-78	82	300	313	-18	nm	nm
Net Profit	521	589	860	376	2,345	415	926	351	-36	1,656	64	nm	-85%
Non-recurring items (after tax)	-76	-10	-73	-248	-409	-36	-6	-29	-491	-562	16	nm	nm
Of which: Government grants	18	20	33	91	162	23	53	34	73	184	23	-68%	-1%
Core NP	597	598	933	624	2,754	451	932	380	455	2,218	48	-90%	-89%
Margin													
Gross profit	12%	16%	13%	7%	12%	9%	9%	6%	6%	7%	10%	4.5pps	1.7pps
EBIT	8%	8%	10%	2%	7%	6%	7%	4%	-2%	4%	2%	3.6pps	-3.9pps
Net profit	5%	4%	5%	2%	4%	3%	4%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0.6pps	-2.3pps
Tax rate	29%	24%	26%	-173%	21%	33%	23%	39%	-29%	36%	26%	55.5pps	-7.0pps
Interest cover	12.1	14.1	8.8	4.3	8.8	9.5	9.1	5.9	2.7	6.8	4.3	59%	-55%
Cash flow													
Operating CF	605	1,159	1,070	3,486	6,321	1,393	2,459	1,547	4,871	10,269	442	-91%	-68%
Investment CF	-1,886	-2,470	-1,411	-3,485	-9,252	-1,850	-2,254	-2,840	-1,748	-8,693	-1,715	-2%	-7%
Capex	-952	-1,461	-1,238	-2,570	-6,221	-946	-984	-1,022	-1,905	-4,858	-767	-60%	-19%
FCF		,	•	•				,	,		_		
	-347	-303	-168	917	100	446	1,474	525	2,966	5,411	-325	nm	nm
Cash from futures settlement					634					1,958			
FCF exclude futures settlement					-534					3,453			
Ratios													
Net Debt/Equity	37%	41%	47%	54%	54%	55%	54%	67%	74%	74%	68%	-6.0pps	12.9pps
ND/EBITDA	2.0	2.0	1.7	4.2	2.7	2.8	1.8	3.5	9.1	3.7	4.5	-50%	63%
Current Ratio	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	6%	-13%
Voula 中国领先的投资研究大数	(据分享配台	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	34%	12%
b													

Inventory T/O Days	86	84	69	57	74	65	45	44	82	59	57	-30%	-12%
AR T/O Days	7	6	5	6	8	8	7	5	6	4	8	27%	-1%
AP T/O Days	44	42	30	22	29	25	19	17	33	24	23	-31%	-8%
Conversion Days	49	49	43	41	53	48	33	33	55	39	42	-24%	-12%
ROA	6.2%	7.2%	10.2%	4.5%	7.0%	4.9%	11.4%	4.3%	-0.5%	5.2%	0.2%	0.7pps	-4.7pps
ROE	3.0%	3.2%	5%	2%	3%	2.2%	4.8%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0.2pps	-2.1pps

Source: company data, J.P. Morgan

Table 3: Zijin operational summary

	4044	0044	0044	1011	0044	4045	0045	0045	4045	0045	4040	4040	
Sales volume	1Q14	2Q14	3Q14	4Q14	2014	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	2015	1Q16	1Q16	
	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	00.0	7.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	05.0	40.4	400/	
Mined gold (t)	6.8	9.0	8.4	9.5	33.8	7.6	9.4	9.2	9.4	35.6	10.4	10%	
Refinery gold (t)	19.1	24.6	36.4	45.0	125.1	37.9	68.8	74.1	29.3	210.2	45.7	56%	
Mined silver (t)	31.0	41.5	46.2	52.8	171.6	46.2	55.2	58.7	52.0	212.0	49.8	-4%	
Mined copper (kt)	28.9	39.2	30.8	37.9	136.8	34.6	42.7	41.8	32.1	151.2	40.5	26%	
Refinery copper (kt)	51.4	58.6	60.7	64.3	234.9	66.2	66.9	54.1	71.4	258.6	97.0	36%	
Mined zinc (kt)	16.7	24.5	29.1	26.1	96.4	32.0	36.0	48.3	61.0	177.2	63.2	4%	
Refinery zinc (kt)	53.3	43.1	54.8	56.1	207.3	54.2	55.4	48.0	60.0	217.5	56.5	-6%	
Iron concentrates (mt)	0.1	1.2	1.0	0.4	2.8	0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.2	0.9	0.5	100%	
ASP (ex-VAT)													
Mined gold (RMB/g)	243	237	236	215	232	225	217	211	209	215	223	7%	
Refinery gold (Rmb/g)	259	258	254	235	249	246	226	239	230	235	251	9%	
Mined silver (RMB/g)	2.53	2.43	2.83	2.16	2.47	2.20	2.13	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.02	-6%	
Mined copper (RMB/t)	36,582	35,690	36,297	34,928	35,804	30,241	31,466	28,082	25,827	29,052	25,697	-1%	
Refinery copper (RMB/t)	41,906	42,030	42,982	40,655	41,872	36,071	37,659	34,073	31,762	34,874	30,579	-4%	
Mined zinc (RMB/t)	7,611	7,514	8,579	8,599	8,146	8,219	8,319	6,000	6,916	7,186	6,057	-12%	
Refinery zinc (RMB/t)	12,728	12,934	14,202	14,396	13,612	13,775	14,042	12,725	11,566	13,002	11,567	0%	
Iron concentrates (RMB/t)	666	533	546	479	535	501	379	-6	326	419	404	24%	
Revenue (RMBm)													
Mined gold	1 657	2.425	1.005	2.040	7.006	1,705	2.024	1.045	1,975	7,659	0.040	17%	
_	1,657	2,135	1,995	2,049	7,836		2,034	1,945			2,313		
Refinery gold Mined silver	4,944	6,360	9,255	10,570	31,128	9,312	15,546	17,701	6,749	49,307	11,476	70%	
	78	101	131	114	424	102	117	127	112	458	101	-10%	
Mined copper	1,058	1,398	1,119	1,325	4,899	1,045	1,343	1,174	829	4,392	1,042	26%	
Refinery copper	2,153	2,462	2,608	2,615	9,837	2,388	2,519	1,843	2,268	9,018	2,965	31%	
Mined zinc	127	184	250	224	785	263	299	290	422	1,274	383	-9%	
Refinery zinc	679	557	778	808	2,822	746	777	611	694	2,828	654	-6%	
Iron concentrates	77	665	567	205	1,514	78	227	0	73	379	182	148%	
Others	1,335	1,574	1,918	2,293	7,121	258	3,677	(4,929)	7,318	6,324	282	-96%	
Less: internal sales	(1,347)	(2,211)	(2,007)	(2,042)	(7,606)	0	(3,604)	3,604	(7,334)	(7,334)	0	nm	
Total	10,762	13,224	16,615	18,160	58,761	15,896	22,937	22,365	13,107	74,305	19,398	48%	
Unit cost													
Mined gold (RMB/g)	153	146	144	135	144	145	135	135	130	136	140	8%	
Refinery gold (Rmb/g)	257	257	253	235	248	245	225	239	230	234	248	8%	
Mined silver (RMB/g)	1.79	1.42	1.73	1.58	1.62	1.54	1.48	1.56	1.45	1.51	1.19	-18%	
Mined copper (RMB/t)	17,007	17,525	16,666	22,016	18,467	17,991	15,054	15,904	22,320	17,504	15,427	-31%	
Refinery copper (RMB/t)	43,544	41,205	39,981	41,171	41,391	36,463	35,763	34,793	30,326	34,238	29,036	-4%	
Mined zinc (RMB/t)	2,793	3,570	3,389	4,043	3,509	4,194	4,279	2,874	4,044	3,800	3,352	-17%	
Refinery zinc (RMB/t)	12,678	12,801	12,700	13,645	12,971	13,353	13,102	12,619	11,385	12,584	10,712	-6%	
Iron concentrates (RMB/t)	223	12,801	12,700	290	189	194	15,102	-22	144	173	152	-0 <i>%</i> 6%	
, ,	220	100	100	200	103	154	100	-22	177	173	102	0 /0	
Cost of sales (RMBm) 孔Mi最中国领先的投资研	农士粉セム:	ウ 亚ム	1,220	1,279	4,862	1,103	1,264	1,243	1,223	4,833	1,451	19%	

Refinery gold	4,908	6,334	9,218	10,593	31,053	9,282	15,510	17,686	6,753	49,232	11,351	68%	22%
Mined silver	55	59	80	83	278	71	82	92	75	320	59	-21%	-17%
Mined copper	492	687	514	835	2,527	622	643	665	717	2,646	625	-13%	1%
Refinery copper	2,237	2,413	2,426	2,648	9,724	2,414	2,393	1,882	2,165	8,854	2,815	30%	17%
Mined zinc	47	88	99	105	338	134	154	139	247	673	212	-14%	58%
Refinery zinc	676	551	696	765	2,689	723	725	606	683	2,737	606	-11%	-16%
Iron concentrates	26	243	143	124	536	30	93	2	32	157	69	112%	129%
Less: internal sales	-220	-856	-257	207	-1,126	-45	-182	-1,465	249	-1,444	8	-97%	nm
Total	9,267	10,835	14,139	16,641	50,882	14,334	20,681	20,849	12,144	68,008	17,195	42%	20%
Gross Margin													
Mined gold	36.9%	38.3%	38.9%	37.6%	38.0%	35.3%	37.8%	36.1%	38.1%	36.9%	37.3%	-0.8pps	1.9pps
Refinery gold	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	-0.1%	0.2%	1.1%	1.1pps	0.8pps
Mined silver	29.2%	41.3%	38.7%	26.9%	34.4%	30.0%	30.2%	27.6%	32.9%	30.1%	41.1%	8.1pps	11.1pps
Mined copper	53.5%	50.9%	54.1%	37.0%	48.4%	40.5%	52.2%	43.4%	13.6%	39.7%	40.0%	26.4pps	-0.5pps
Refinery copper	-3.9%	2.0%	7.0%	-1.3%	1.1%	-1.1%	5.0%	-2.1%	4.5%	1.8%	5.0%	0.5pps	6.1pps
Mined zinc	63.3%	52.5%	60.5%	53.0%	56.9%	49.0%	48.6%	52.1%	41.5%	47.1%	44.7%	3.1pps	-4.3pps
Refinery zinc	0.4%	1.0%	10.6%	5.2%	4.7%	3.1%	6.7%	0.8%	1.6%	3.2%	7.4%	5.8pps	4.3pps
Iron concentrates	66.5%	63.5%	74.7%	39.4%	64.6%	61.3%	59.2%	-256%	55.9%	58.6%	62.3%	6.4pps	1.1pps
Gross profit (RMBm)													
Mined gold	611	818	775	770	2,974	603	770	702	752	2,827	862	15%	43%
Refinery gold	36	26	36	-23	75	29	36	14	-4	76	125	nm	329%
Mined silver	23	42	51	31	146	31	35	35	37	138	41	12%	35%
Mined copper	566	712	605	490	2,372	423	701	509	113	1,746	416	270%	-2%
Refinery copper	-84	48	182	-33	113	-26	127	-39	103	164	150	46%	nm
Mined zinc	80	97	151	119	447	129	145	151	175	600	171	-3%	33%
Refinery zinc	3	6	82	42	133	23	52	5	11	91	48	343%	112%
Iron concentrates	51	422	424	81	978	48	135	-1	41	222	114	177%	139%
Others	48	3	-74	-175	-198	102	41	-58	-461	-376	71	nm	-31%
Total	1,334	2,173	2,233	1,300	7,040	1,361	2,041	1,319	766	5,487	1,998	161%	47%

Source: company data, J.P. Morgan

Investment Thesis

Zijin is China's second-largest gold and copper miner. Within our gold coverage, the company is most vulnerable to the copper price shock, with gold and copper (from its mines and byproduct credits) accounting for 77% and 18% of its revenue, respectively. The company has been growing its resource portfolio through M&A with major acquisitions in copper and gold assets announced in 2015. We believe the company's effort over recent years to replenish gold assets and reduce costs will help it better weather the commodity storm - maintain an OW rating on Zijin's strong volume growth.

Valuation

Our Dec-16 price target for Zijin-H is HK\$2.5/share is based on a blended average of P/BV-ROE valuation, EV/EBITDA multiple, P/E multiple, DCF-based NPV and EV/reserve method.

Risks to Rating and Price Target

- **Upside risk:** Stronger-than-expected gold prices, better-than-expected cost performance, faster-than-expected production growth, ongoing share buybacks, higher dividend distribution and M&As.
- **Downside risk:** Weaker-than-expected gold prices, higher-than-expected cost pressure, slower-than-expected production growth, worse-than-expected working capital control, higher-than-expected capex requirement. 是中国领先的投资研究人数据分享平台



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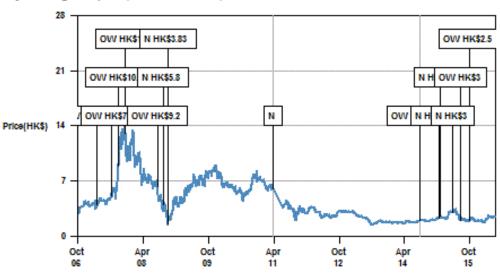
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Date	Rating	Share Price (HK\$)	Price Target (HK\$)
10-Mar-07	OW	3.99	6.04
11-Jul-07	OW	5.10	7.40
10-Sep-07	OW	8.84	10.80



Zijin Mining Group - H (2899.HK, 2899 HK) Price Chart



20 0-4 07	OW	40.04	40.00	
29-Oct-07	OW	13.04	16.00	
30-Jul-08	OW	6.26	9.20	
19-Sep-08	N	4.04	5.80	
25-Oct-08	N	1.59	3.83	
22-Mar-11	N	6.00		
03-Aug-14	OW	1.96	2.45	
15-Jan-15	N	2.33	2.45	
23-Jan-15	N	2.62	2.20	
07-May-15	N	2.99	3.00	
10-Jul-15	OW	2.00	3.00	
28-Sep-15	OW	2.02	2.50	

Source: Bloomberg and J.P. Morgan; price data adjusted for stock splits and dividends. Break in coverage Mar 22, 2011 - Aug 03, 2014.

The chart(s) show J.P. Morgan's continuing coverage of the stocks; the current analysts may or may not have covered it over the entire period.

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	(buy)	(hold)	(sell)
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IB clients*	53%	49%	34%
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