

Announcement: Moody's: Yanlord's 1H 2015 results support its Ba3 ratings

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Hong Kong, August 14, 2015 -- Moody's Investors Service says that Yanlord Land Group Limited's 1H 2015 results support its Ba3 corporate and senior unsecured debt ratings.

The ratings outlook remains stable.

"Yanlord's credit metrics improved in 1H 2015 due to the recognition of projects with higher gross margin and a slight decline in gross debt. We expect its full-year 2015 gross margin to remain largely flat from 2014, due to the delivery of lower-margin products in 2H 2015," says Dylan Yeo, a Moody's Analyst.

Yanlord's gross margin increased to 37.3% in 1H 2015 from 29.2% in 2014, despite moderate year-on-year growth in revenue of 2.4% to RMB3.35 billion. This was because the company delivered high-margin projects, such as Yanlord Yangtze Riverbay Town (Phase 3) in Naniing, during the period.

The substantial increase in the company's gross margin resulted in turn in an increase in Yanlord's EBIT coverage of interest to 3.3x for the 12 months ended June 2015 from 2.7x in 2014.

The company's total debt also declined slightly to RMB19.66 billion at end-June 2015 from RMB19.90 billion at end-2014, as the company did not make any land purchases in 1H 2015. As a result, its revenue/adjusted debt improved slightly to 0.60x for the 12 months ended June 2015 from 0.59x in 2014.

Contracted sales for the first seven months of 2015 totaled around RMB12.9 billion.

Based on scheduled project launches in the next few months, Moody's believes Yanlord is well on track to reach its full-year contracted sales target of RMB18 billion.

In addition, Moody's expects revenue to grow by approximately 5% for the full year 2015, supported by unrecognized contracted sales of RMB18.1 billion at end-June 2015.

Total debt will also grow moderately in the second half of the year as Yanlord will need to replenish its land bank.

Accordingly, we project Yanlord's revenue/adjusted debt at around 0.5x and EBIT coverage of interest at around 3.0x in the next 12-18 months.

"Yanlord's ratings remain well-positioned at Ba3 as its liquidity is strong relative to similarly rated peers, despite its relative high leverage," adds Yeo, who is also the lead analyst for Yanlord.

Yanlord's cash to short-term debt ratio remained strong at 173% at end-June 2015, despite a decline from 303% at end-2014. This compares favorably with Ba3-rated peers with cash to short-term debt ratios of around 100%-150%.

The company's total cash holdings of RMB7.98 billion at end-June 2015, together with projected operating cash flow, were adequate to cover its maturing debt of RMB4.60 billion and committed land payments over the next 12 months.

The stable ratings outlook reflects Moody's expectation that Yanlord will have adequate cash and operating cash flow to fund its current projects and will control its debt-funded business expansion.

The principal methodology used in these ratings was Homebuilding And Property Development Industry published in April 2015. Please see the Credit Policy page on www.moodys.com for a copy of this methodology.

Yanlord Land Group Limited is one of the major property developers in China. It operates in the major cities of Shanghai, Nanjing, Suzhou, Shenzhen, Tianjin, Zhuhai, Tangshan, Sanya and Chengdu. It was established in 1993 and was listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange in 2006.

Its total land bank of 4.8 million square meters at end-June 2015 is spread across nine cities and five fast-growing

regions in China. It has some geographic concentration within the Yangtze River Delta, which accounted for around 38% of its land bank and 81% of its gross revenue from property sales in 2014.

This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the ratings tab on the issuer/entity page on www.moodys.com for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.

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