Preliminary numbers for 2024 slightly ahead of expectations

Merkur Privatbank has published its preliminary numbers for 2024. Net income was 5% higher than last year and slightly ahead of our expectations, mainly due to lower-than-anticipated risk provisions. On a positive note, net commissions were up 40% year-over-year, and net interest income remained stable compared to last year, despite sluggish new interim financing for property developers and a slight decline in the net interest margin. For 2025, Merkur Privatbank expects net interest income to be on par with 2024 and anticipates further increases in net commission results. Overall, the preliminary results once again underscore the stability and solidity of Merkur Privatbank. Buy, TP 19.

		Actual			Pareto	
Merkur Privatbank		2023	2024	yoy (%)	2024	Delta (%)
Revenues	EURm	118.9	127.4	7	125.9	1
of which NII	"	95.8	95.9	0	94.8	1
of which net commissions	"	20.7	29.0	40	28.9	0
of which other	"	2.4	2.5	4	2.2	14
Expenses	"	64.9	70.0	8	69.9	0
CIR	%	55%	55%		56%	
Risk provisions	EURm	8.1	9.9	22	15.0	-34
Operating profit	EURm	45.9	47.5	4	41.0	16
Net income	EURm	12.9	13.8	7	12.0	15
Other KPI						
Lending volume	EURm	3,122	3,306	6		
Risk costs (annualized)	bps	28	31	8		
Net interest margin (annualized)	%	2.7%	2.5%	-10		

Source: Pareto, Company

More insights from the press release:

- The cost-income ratio (CIR) was a notch better than expected at 55%.
- AuM were up EUR 0.6bn to EUR 4.14bn (+17%), which was clearly better than Merkur's internal target.
- EPS rose 7% to EUR 1.49.

Knud Hinkel +49 69 58997 419, knud.hinkel@paretosec.com

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