UBS Position on Share Buybacks

Banks announce share buybacks in advance to increase planning security for both themselves and investors. They then carry out these buybacks as announced – as long as the general conditions have not fundamentally changed. UBS is already committed to a strong capital base and is pursuing a capital ratio target that is more than 2 percentage points (approximately USD 10 billion) higher than the regulatory requirements for 2030. The current buyback program already takes into account the substantial capital increase of around USD 15 billion required to comply with existing regulations as a result of the acquisition of Credit Suisse. Both the timetable and the exact scope of any additional capital requirements are still pending and the crucial decision on capital backing for foreign participations ultimately lies with Parliament. Once there is clarity about the framework conditions that will apply going forward, UBS expects to be able to plan accordingly.

Why the topic is important

- **Investors expect banks to deliver reliable and reasonable returns on capital.** Bank shares are generally characterized as cyclical value stocks, offering investors stable returns and exposure to the broader economy. Reliable returns on capital are crucial when it comes to encouraging investors to hold bank shares. These returns – which are achieved not only by paying out dividends but also by increasing the value of investments through share buybacks – are particularly important for long-term investors such as pension funds.
- **Early, transparent and reliable information on share buyback programs helps investors better align their investments.** In line with this global practice, UBS proactively communicates its buyback plans and immediately informs investors of any material changes in its financial position, outlook or regulatory environment.
- **When implementing a share buyback program, a bank carefully weighs its own capital strength against the reliable capital returns for investors.** UBS has a common equity tier 1 (CET1) ratio of around 14%, which is more than 2 percentage points, or approximately USD 10 billion in CET1 capital terms, higher than the regulatory requirements for 2030. UBS remains committed to keeping its capital position strong.
- **UBS competes for capital in a global market.** The return on UBS's total capital distribution is 5% of its market value, split roughly half/half between dividends and share buybacks, which is at the lower end compared to its peers in Europe and the US (see Figure 1). It is important that UBS continues to execute share buybacks to compete for capital in a global market where peers are actively returning capital to shareholders at levels generally higher than UBS.
- **The support of investors with a long-term investment horizon is crucial for a bank's resilience as this strengthens access to capital in the event of a crisis.** A bank must therefore remain competitive when distributing capital and must not withhold capital because the regulatory framework might change in the future.
- **The timeline and scope of the future capital requirements currently under discussion is still uncertain.** According to the Federal Council none of the proposed changes will come into force before 2027. In addition, a decision by Parliament is required for the most substantive decision on the full deduction of foreign shareholdings.

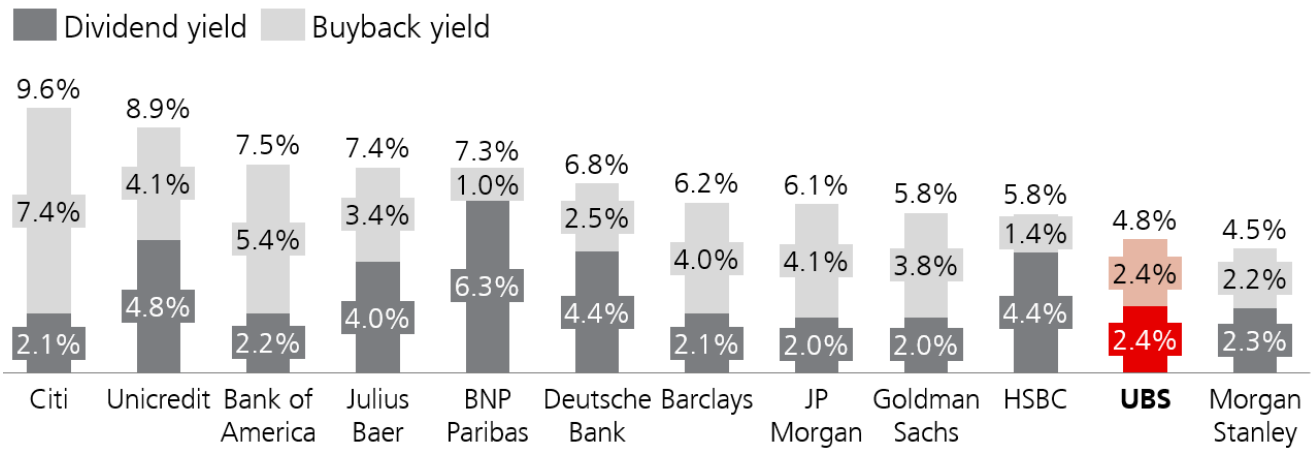
UBS's position

UBS remains committed to its share buyback program as it is an integral part of investor expectations. The bank is already well above its regulatory capital target, and future regulatory capital requirements remain unclear. The current buyback program already takes into account the significant capital increase of around USD 15 billion required to comply with existing regulations resulting from the acquisition of Credit Suisse. Once there is clarity about future capital requirements and their timing, UBS expects to be able to plan accordingly.

Additional information

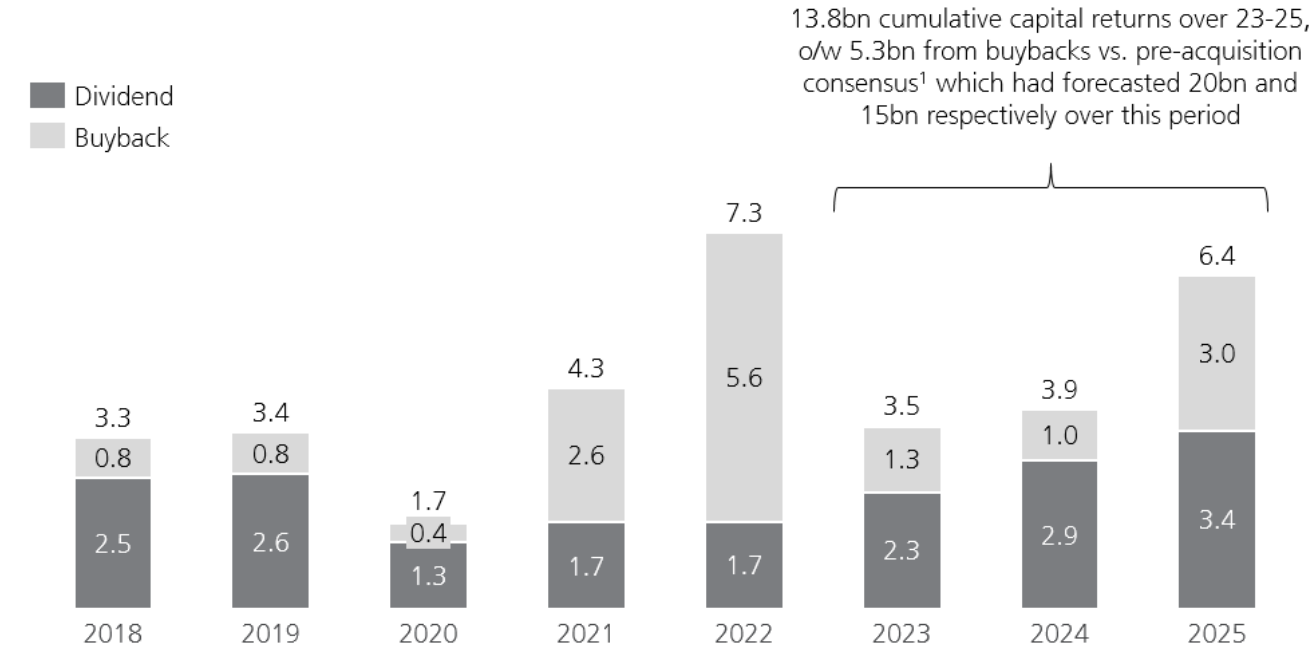
– **Significantly lower capital distribution following the takeover of Credit Suisse:** Following the acquisition of Credit Suisse by UBS in March 2023, the bank adjusted its capital distribution. UBS's profit fell to 3% of its CET1 capital in the second half of 2023 in the wake of the acquisition – down from 17% in 2022. Accordingly, UBS has paid significantly less capital back to investors since 2023 than the market had expected before the acquisition. Before the acquisition was announced, financial market participants expected UBS to make cumulative capital distributions of USD 20 billion between 2023 and 2025, including USD 15 billion through share buybacks. Following the acquisition, capital returns over this period ended up being just USD 13.8 billion, with USD 5.3 billion from share buybacks (see Figure 2).

Figure 1: Returns From Buybacks and Dividends by UBS and Competitors[1,2]



Note: Share buyback and dividend yields expected for 2026 as of 4 February 2026, with consensus data on capital returns from peer banks, based on Visible Alpha. The UBS consensus is based on consensus data collected by the bank as of 12 January 2026. The figures are based on repurchases by issue (including compensation-related issues), where disclosed. **1** Based on actual buybacks during the year; **2** Based on the share price as of 4 February 2026

Figure 2: UBS Total Capital Distributions (USD billion, bn)



Note: 1 The most recent consensus prior to the announcement of the acquisition was collected on 14 February 2023.