



MEIRA Newsletter

28 March 2017

The Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) is proud to introduce the MEIRA Newsletter.

We intend to make it a bimonthly publication, to keep you in touch with the news of the Middle East IR industry and to regularly update you on MEIRA activities.

This issue includes our most recent updates, a recap of important regulations announced in 2017, an interview with Redwan Ahmed, Head of IR at DP World, and the list of our upcoming events and training sessions.

We hope you like it! Send us your feedback at pr@meira.me.

[Download this newsletter \(PDF\)](#)

News and Opinions

- IR Magazine: 15 questions with Ooredoo: interview of Andreas Goldau, Head of IR at Ooredoo. [Read more](#)
- Sarah Al-Suhaimi appointed first female chairperson of Saudi Arabia's Tadawul. [Read more](#)
- These are all the ways a Saudi Aramco IPO could impact markets. [Read more](#)

- Interview of Dr. Ryan Lemand, MEIRA Board Member, on Saudi Arabia's economic reforms. [Watch the video](#)
 - A Waterloo moment for Mifid II. [Read more](#)
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Regulation

Saudi Arabia CMA: New Corporate Governance Regulations

Saudi Arabia's Capital Market Authority adopted new regulations to enhance corporate governance, transparency and communication between companies and shareholders. The new corporate governance framework will come into effect on April 22, 2017.

The new rules are focused on shareholders' rights including fair treatment, non-discrimination, access to information as well as the rights of other stakeholders in Tadawul-listed companies.

[Read more](#)

JSC: Issuers of securities to disclose all statements in Arabic and English

The Jordan Securities Commission (JSC) announced new disclosure regulations for publicly listed companies, mutual funds and issuers of securities whereby all issuers are obligated to disclose their financial and non-financial data both in Arabic and English languages as a step towards attracting international investors into local securities as well as being part of Jordan's efforts to regain its MSCI Emerging Market classification.

[Read more \(Arabic\)](#)

DFSA's framework receives regulatory equivalency to EU regime

The Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA) announced that its regulatory framework for central counterparties (CCPs) has been classified as equivalent to that of the European Union.

The determination, made by the European Commission, acknowledges the work undertaken by the DFSA to instill internationally-recognised best practices including a robust framework that promotes financial stability through a reduction in systemic risk. The distinction will encourage cross-border activity between European clearing members and CCPs located in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) by reducing the regulatory burden to participate in the market.

[Read more](#)

MEIRA Updates

MEIRA signs MOU with Boursa Kuwait

The Middle East Investor Relations Association has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Boursa Kuwait on Thursday 23 March, 2017 at Boursa Kuwait Headquarters. Mr. Khaled AlKhaled, Boursa Kuwait Vice Chairman and CEO, and Alex MacDonald-Vitale, MEIRA Chairman, signed the agreement to mark the start of this collaboration.



Boursa Kuwait will be playing a leading role in supporting the 'MEIRA Kuwait Chapter' in an effort to raise the standards of the Investor Relations role by rolling out specialised awareness and training programs.

[Read more](#)

Fahmi Alghussein appointed as Qatar Chapter Head

MEIRA has appointed Fahmi Alghussein, Chief Executive Officer at Amwal, as its new Qatar Chapter Head. Fahmi Alghussein has over 25 years experience in asset management, investment banking and capital markets. Fahmi was introduced to the MEIRA Qatar Chapter members last month, during the Q1 Qatar Chapter Meeting in Doha, Qatar.

[Read more](#)

MEIRA is sponsoring regional conferences and summits

MEIRA will be 'Association Partner' of several upcoming conferences and summits, which will take place across the Middle East in 2017: the AFE Annual Conference 2017 (Beirut), The Euromoney Emirates Conference (Sharjah) and the Middle East Investment Summit (Dubai).

Exclusive benefit: MEIRA members will receive discounts on registration fees. Discounts codes have been provided in a separate email. If you haven't received your promotional code and you would like to attend one of these events, please contact events@meira.me

[Read more](#)

Publications

MEIRA White Paper



MEIRA has interviewed Redwan Ahmed, Head of Investor Relations at DP World and winner of the Best Investor Relations Officer in UAE Award in 2016. Redwan Ahmed gives an insight into what is behind the company's continued success and his thoughts on the role of IR in the region.

[Download it here](#)



Debunking the myths in annual reporting (white paper sponsored by Emperor)

The annual report has long been one of the most important documents a company publishes during the year, but over the past decade, they have evolved and become more complex. In this report, Emperor looks at the five myths they come across most frequently when talking to companies, provides evidence to refute them and makes suggestions to help those preparing the reports.

[Download it here](#)

Events

Upcoming Events

MEIRA 2017 Annual Conference and Awards - 20 September 2017, Dubai

The MEIRA 2017 Annual Conference and Awards is the Association's flagship event. Held in Dubai, it is the largest IR event in MENA and is attended by our members but also listed firms, investors, analysts and advisors, as well as representatives of the region's Capital Markets Authorities and Exchanges.

The Conference provides delegates with a networking platform, and aims to encourage dialogue around market challenges and best practice, while educate participants and stakeholders on the importance of Investor Relations, corporate governance and preserving long-term value.

[Visit our Conference website](#)



MEIRA 2017

ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AWARDS



SAVE THE DATE

20 SEPTEMBER 2017

**9th Middle East Investor Relations
Association Annual Conference and Awards**

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2017, DUBAI

For more information and for sponsorship opportunities,
visit our website: conference.meira.me
or contact: events@meira.me
or +971 (0)4 309 7034

MEIRA Events Calendar

Webcast - ESG: Opportunities and implications for IROs: 10 April [More details](#)

2017 Extel Survey: 22 March - 28 April (Online) [More details](#)

Fintech workshop: 08 May (Dubai, UAE) *Co-hosted by MEIRA, DFSA and Hawkamah*

MEIRA 2017 Annual Conference and Awards: 20 September (Dubai, UAE) [More details](#)

[Check our online calendar](#)

MEIRA Sponsored Events Calendar

AFE Annual Conference 2017: 25 - 26 April (Beirut, Lebanon) [Register](#)

The Euromoney Emirates Conference: 08 - 09 May (Sharjah, UAE) [Register](#)

Middle East Investment Summit 2017: 22 - 23 May (Dubai, UAE) [Register](#)

IR Magazine Global Forum Conference: 03 - 04 October (Paris, France) [More details](#)

[Check our online calendar](#)

Past Events

Depository Receipts Seminar

On 13 March, London Stock Exchange and Deutsche Bank, in partnership with Al Mawared Brokerage, hold a seminar on Depository Receipts, in cooperation with The Amman Stock Exchange (ASE).

During the event, experts and senior managers from different entities discussed opportunities for Jordanian public

shareholding companies to issue Depository Receipts and list them on London Stock Exchange.

Clemence Piot, GM of MEIRA, participated in the seminar as a speaker and shared MEIRA's expertise on Investor Relations, and how it would improve the attractiveness of Jordanian listed companies.



Qatar Chapter Meeting

The Qatar Chapter Meeting took place on the 26th of February in Doha. During the event, Fahmi Alghussein had the opportunity to introduce himself as the new Qatar Chapter Head to the rest of the members. Participants discussed the strategy and objectives of the MEIRA Qatar Chapter for 2017.



Training

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NEW! Introduction to IR and Capital Markets training - 1 day

This new course provides an introduction to IR and the financial environment in which IR professionals work.

Suitable for anyone new to the financial world, who is working in investor relations, corporate communications or financial PR.

[Download the brochure](#)

Introduction to IR Calendar

- Dubai: 1 May 2017



[Register now!](#)

Are you looking for a bespoke training?

[Contact us](#)

CIRO programme - 2 days

The Certified Investor Relations Officer programme, delivered in partnership with the London based UK IR Society, is an internationally recognised qualification in Investor Relations.

[Read more](#)

CIRO Calendar



- **Kuwait:** 29 - 30 April
- **Dubai:** 02 - 03 May
- **Dubai:** 30 - 31 October

[Register now!](#)

Members



We are delighted to count on the support of our new and renewed members (2017 ytd):

- ACWA Power (Saudi Arabia)
- Agthia Group (UAE)
- Aldar Properties (UAE)
- Argam (Saudi Arabia) - **New**
- Bank Audi (Lebanon)
- Bank Muscat (Oman)
- Bank of Palestine (Palestine)
- Blom Bank (Lebanon)
- Dana Gas (UAE)
- Elizabeth Donaghy
- Mannai Corporation (Qatar) - **New**
- NBAD (UAE)
- QIIB (Qatar) - **New**
- Siniora Food (Jordan) - **New**
- Vodafone (Qatar)
- Zain KSA (Saudi Arabia)

*Become a member and benefit from our exclusive packages.
Contact [us](#) for more information.*

In the spotlight

We asked one question to Fahmi Alghussein, MEIRA Qatar Chapter Head.

Q: Which are your long-term goals as MEIRA Qatar Chapter Head to improve IR best practice in Qatar?

Our mission is to ensure we comply with international standards and best practice. Although for the last years we have seen big improvements in communication, reporting and transparency, we need to be more proactive in engaging with the local investors and dedicated emerging markets fund managers from the GCC and the rest of the world.

Training the Qatari IR Officers via IR Certification programme and investing in making the information accessible via corporate websites, will both play an important role in developing IR best practice in the country. Over the course of the next 12 months, MEIRA Qatar Chapter will support listed companies by sharing best practice and guiding them on how best to improve the IR role in order to achieve our long-term goal of accomplishing developed market status.

If you have any question related to IR, take the opportunity to share it with MEIRA. We will find the best person within MEIRA network to address it.

Send your question

Survey

Share your thoughts and experience! Every month we will be running a short survey on an IR related topic. The results will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

"How do you produce your annual report?"

Participate here

Share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends



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About Middle East Investor Relations Association

The Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) is an independent non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the Investor Relations (IR) profession and industry standards in corporate governance. The mission of MEIRA is to enhance the reputation, efficiency and attractiveness of the Middle East capital markets.

This involves a commitment to fostering increased dialogue among its members and to encourage them to share and adopt best practice techniques within the field of IR. In partnership with stock exchanges, regulators and other market participants, MEIRA supports companies through its professional development and certification programmes as well as its membership community and network of country chapters.



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