



MEIRA Newsletter

03 May 2017

Welcome to our latest newsletter!

In this issue you will find our most recent updates such as the launch of the MEIRA Saudi Arabia Chapter and the MOU signed with the Amman Stock Exchange and with Tadawul.

Also, we would like to share with you some reports and articles that we think might be interesting for IR professionals.

If you would like to collaborate in our next bulletin, contact us at pr@meira.me.

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

News and Opinions

- Market analysis: In time, new bankruptcy law will benefit UAE capital markets. [Read more](#)
- Managing the Narrative: Investor Relations Officers and Corporate Disclosure. [Read more](#)
- London Stock Exchange looks to Middle East for revival after Brexit. [Read more](#)

- Sukuk accounting proposal takes the standardisation debate to a new level. [Read more](#)
- Taking GCC debt capital markets to the next level. [Read more](#)
- For Saudi Aramco, good governance must begin at home. [Read more](#)
- Why Saudis' MSCI Bid Matters And What They've Done to Get It. [Read more](#)

MEIRA Updates

MEIRA launches the Saudi Arabia Chapter

MEIRA has launched a new chapter in Saudi Arabia, supported by the Tadawul, to further develop best practice in Investor Relations (IR) across the Kingdom.

The Saudi MEIRA Chapter was formally inaugurated at a ceremony with long-standing partners in the regional development of IR: Ikram Ulhaque from Almarai, Walid Al Hakim from Ma'aden, Faisal Al Modlij from Sipchem, Rayan Al Karawi from Zain KSA and Samantha Bartel Al Khalaf at the Tadawul offices on April 27.



[Read more](#)

MEIRA signs an MOU with Tadawul

MEIRA signed an MOU with Tadawul during the Euromoney Conference on May 2, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The purpose of the MOU is to collaborate with the local stock exchange.

This is considered an important milestone following the formal inauguration of the Saudi MEIRA Chapter at a ceremony attended by founding members held at Tadawul offices on April 27.



[Read more](#)

MEIRA signs an MOU with Amman Stock Exchange

MEIRA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Amman Stock Exchange on April 26, at the Arab Federation of Exchange Conference in Beirut.

Nader Azar, CEO at the Amman Stock Exchange and Alex Macdonald-Vitale, MEIRA Chairman, signed the agreement which creates the foundations to develop the IR profession in the country.

Following the MOU, MEIRA will reinforce its activity in Jordan by organising specific events and supporting local initiatives.



Publications

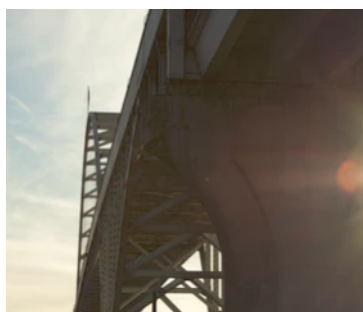
Regional initiatives and investor pressure needed to elevate corporate governance standards (by S&P)



The corporate Governance standards of GCC corporates still lag their international counterparts, despite significant legislative and cultural progress. In order to secure cheaper and longer term funding and diversify their funding base, Gulf companies should place higher importance on governance practices as per the report published between S&P and GOVERN.

[Download the report here](#)

Why global equity income could offer an opportunity for the cash-flow constrained (by BNY Mellon)



Many investors are turning to alternatives to meet their income requirements, but Newton Investment Management's Nick Clay says a more conventional opportunity could be close at hand in BNY Mellon's thought leadership publication.

[Download the report here](#)

Events

Upcoming Events

MEIRA FinTech Seminar in Dubai

MEIRA is organising a seminar in collaboration with DFSA, DIFC FinTech Hive and Hawkamah on May 8 in Dubai titled "Understanding FinTech: new financing opportunities for Middle East companies".

During the seminar, experts from the mentioned entities will discuss how the companies can benefit from FinTech for financing solutions. Also, they will debate the main impacts from a regulation and corporate governance point of view. Representatives from Eureeca and Beehive, will participate in the panel discussion to offer their expertise as key FinTech players in the region.

Event details

Date: 8 May, 2017

Time: from 9 am to 11 am

Venue: DFSA, The Gate, DIFC

If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP [here](#).

[More details and agenda](#)

BNY Mellon 2017 IR Survey



We invite you to participate in the 11th BNY Mellon Global Investor Relations Survey, the financial markets' most comprehensive and longest running global survey of investor relations.

The Middle East Investor Relations Association is a strong supporter of the survey which, in addition to the global survey report, provides a Middle East breakout report that will be distributed to all MEIRA members when launched.

Please take some time now to complete your survey so that we have enough respondents to produce the Middle Eastern breakout report for benchmarking your IR practices with their peers.

The survey is open until Monday, **May 8**. In appreciation of your participation, BNY Mellon will donate \$2.00 per valid survey response to the United Nations Foundation.

[Please, enter the survey with this link](#)

MEIRA sponsors the Iraq Stock Exchange Forum

MEIRA is supporting, as association partner, the Iraq Stock Exchange Forum which will take place at the Mövenpick Hotel & Resort in Beirut on May 8-9.

The conference will focus on the current and future investment opportunities within the Iraqi financial market. Key topics including IR best practice, financial trading, investment opportunities and technological developments will all be discussed with the goal of facilitating dialogue with potential regional and global investors.

If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP [here](#).

[Click here for more details](#)

Workshop: Crisis preparedness and its impact on shareholder value

Instinctif Partners and MEIRA will host a workshop on May 23 in Dubai where crisis experts will share their investor relations and crisis management methodology with the attendants.

The workshop will cover topics related to communication, corporate governance, risk, cultural sensitivity and internal processes, helping the attendees to operate a more resilient and dynamic organisation.

Event details

Date: 23 May, 2017

Time: from 08:30 am to 10:30am

Venue: Capital Club, Gate Village, Building 3, DIFC

If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP [here](#).

[Click here for more details](#)

MEIRA Events Calendar

MEIRA Dubai Chapter meeting: 4 April (Dubai, UAE) *Members only* [More details](#)

Understanding Fintech seminar: 8 May (Dubai, UAE) [More details](#)

Crisis preparedness and its impact on shareholder value workshop: 23 May (Dubai, UAE) [More details](#)

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

[Check our online calendar](#)

MEIRA Sponsored Events Calendar

The Euromoney Emirates Conference: 8 - 9 May (Sharjah, UAE) *Special discounts for MEIRA members* [Register](#)

Iraqi Stock Exchange Forum: 8 - 9 May (Beirut, Lebanon) [Register](#)

Middle East Investment Summit 2017: 22 - 23 May (Dubai, UAE) *Special discounts for MEIRA members* [Register](#)

IR Magazine Global Forum Conference: 3 - 4 October (Paris, France) *Special discounts for MEIRA members* [More details](#)

8th Kepler Cheuvreux IR Summit: 15 December (Milano, Italy)

[Check our online calendar](#)

Past Events

MEIRA sponsored the Arab Federation of Exchanges Conference

MEIRA participated in the Arab Federation of Exchanges Conference which took place in Beirut on April 26 - 27.

The event welcomed stock exchanges, financial institutions, investment fund managers, technology providers and the specialised media.

MEIRA representatives participated in a panel discussion focused on Investor Relations and they offered different point of views related to risk management and the importance of Investor Relations for corporate valuation.



MEIRA IR Awareness Workshop in Kuwait



MEIRA, in collaboration with Boursa Kuwait and Zain Group, organised an Investor Relations Awareness Workshop on April 17 at Boursa Kuwait headquarters. The workshop aimed to raise awareness and knowledge of the major role of Investor Relations in Kuwait, from an organizational and practical point of view.

Boursa Kuwait initiated the workshop and led the first session with two main topics, which addressed the importance of IR in light of the new regulatory environment in Kuwait. MEIRA took the lead on the second session to introduce the IR profession in a global perspective.

Zain Group concluded the event with a study case that allowed the attendees to understand how to implement the IR function within their organisations and its main benefits.

The workshop followed the MOU recently signed by Boursa Kuwait and MEIRA to promote the implementation of IR best practice in Kuwait.

[Read more](#)

International conferences

International Conferences Calendar

HSBC MENA Forum: 2 - 3 May (New York, USA)

ADX Roadshow: 8 - 9 May (New York, USA)

JP Morgan Global Consumer Conference: 16 May (London, UK)

Morgan Stanley GEMS Conference: 15 - 17 May (London, UK)

DFM Roadshow: 17 - 18 May (London, UK)

JP Morgan Global TMT Conference: 22 May (Boston, USA)

Deutsche Bank Global Financial Services Conference: 30 - 31 May (London, UK)

Emerging Markets Corporate Credit Conference: 31 May (Miami, USA)

HSBC GEMs Conference: 5 June (New York, USA)

BAML CalGEMs Global One-on-One Conference: 6 June (Los Angeles, USA)

UBS EMEA LatAm One-on-One Conference: 27 June (London, UK)

[For a complete list, click here](#)

Training

CIRO programme

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

- **Dubai:** 30 - 31 October



[Register now!](#)

**Are you looking for a bespoke
training?**

[Contact us](#)

Introduction to IR and Capital Markets

On May 1, a total of seven delegates attended the course "Introduction to IR an Capital Markets" in Dubai organised by MEIRA.



During the session, the attendees learned the principles of the IR profession and how the capital markets operate globally. The training was an interactive course where all the delegates had the opportunity to discuss several matters and to share their expertise on each subject.

At the end of the day, all the delegates received a Completion Certificate to recognise their effort.

[Read more](#)

CIRO Training delivered in Kuwait and Dubai



The CIRO training was delivered in Kuwait City on April 29 - 30 with the support of Boursa Kuwait. A total number of 13 delegates attended the course. It included a presentation conducted by Dalal AlDousari, Head of IR at Gulf Bank, who offer their experience as IRO in Kuwait.

The programme has been delivered in Dubai as well on May 2- 3 at the Fairmont Hotel. A total of 15 delegates gathered in this two-day course to prepare their exam which will recognise them as certified Investor Relations Officers. In this occasion, the guest speaker was Amin Tawfiq Fikree, Assistant Manager Investor Relations at DP World, who explained the IR profession on a day-to-day basis. He also offered some practical tips to engage with investors and to communicate with them in a more efficient way.



MEIRA would like to wish good luck to all the delegates for their exam!

[Read more](#)

Members

members (for the 15 - 30 April 2017 period):

- Mr. Mohammad Al Deir - *New*
- Mr. Mohammed Mansouri - *New*
- One Foods (UAE) - *New*

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

In the spotlight

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

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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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