



## MEIRA Newsletter

14 February 2019

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If you would like to collaborate in our next newsletter, contact us at [pr@meira.me](mailto:pr@meira.me)

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### Weekend reading list

- > Oman preparing for major economic reform. *The Arab Weekly* [Read more](#)
- > Investors want more ESG information from companies. *IR Magazine* [Read more](#)
- > Why IROs need to understand ETFs and indexes in 2019. *Bloomberg* [Read more](#)
- > Analyzing MiFID II trading trends. *Refinitiv* [Read more](#)

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### Publications

#### **Institutional Investor Survey 2019 (by Morrow Sodali)**

The 4th Annual Institutional Investor Survey aims at better understanding investor sensitivities and expectations, in the context of global applicable governance practices and ESG/stewardship expectations in 2019.



According to this year's survey, Institutional Investors continue to dig deeper into the inner workings of portfolio companies in preparation for their proxy voting decisions and ongoing assessments of risk.

[Download the report](#)

## MEIRA Updates



### Notes from the GM

Happy Valentine's Day!

The most frequent question I have been asked in the past few weeks has been, what's your vision and strategy?

Fortunately, MEIRA is in a good place, serving to connect you all in our regional markets. Big questions and answers on our direction are very important. These will be addressed as we continue the good work to be the best that we can possibly be. In this, you have already started and we aim to build on it and sustain it. MEIRA exists to champion best practice in our professional field of investor relations. We are the go-to professional body in the region and beyond for anything to do with our field of expertise, IR in the Middle East. I've said that we should be bigger. I'm sure that we can get better too as we continue to produce the most relevant, timely and useful IR content with you and for you. We will share this across all markets.

I once had a Chairman who believed that you can only have one objective - good for prioritisation and resourcing. I also had a CEO who said, on his first day in the office, strategy means nothing without clear direction and the ability to execute plans. At the time, I understood the Chairman's point and I was somewhat miffed by the CEO given that I had been in my role prior to his arrival and had 'strategy' in my job title. However, he proved right and I've never forgotten the instructive lessons of working closely with him for 7 years. I could add that the CEO saw effective communication as key, first internally in the organisation and then, externally. Part of this is putting in place the iterative processes that allow management to

understand all stakeholders and identify important needs before devising plans to deliver the priorities of all your constituents. IR is of course part of this, a strategic role that sees, hears, distils essential information and informs management, if not Board, thinking and action.

Back to now, I visited the Al Hajar Mountains last weekend. It was very scenic and most invigorating. It made me think how lucky we are to be in a wonderful part of the world with real opportunities to make a difference. We're rather like the bees that I saw in Hatta providing for the Queen Bee at the centre of hive activity, just being the best that we can possibly be (no pun intended). This is purpose, Queen Bee, worker bee or drone. Everyone plays their part in order to ensure the survival and well-being of the organisation. I learnt that the UAE has the first facility in the region for the rearing of Queen Bees. These can, of course, be exported and at the same time, different species can be introduced to the hives here. This certainly gives meaning to the saying, variety is the spice of life. It sounds like IR, if not honey!

We mentioned that we are holding our first event of the 2019 calendar - the webinar on 20 February (1-2 pm UAE time), "2019: Market predictions for the changing investment landscape"- I sincerely hope you will join us next week for what is shaping up to be a great discussion covering what we are seeing and what we expect to see in the world of IR this year. I'm delighted to say that we will be joined by leading senior IROs and expert speakers from the region and outside it. In this way, we expect to gain a dazzling array of perspectives that should inform your view of IR today. We thank Nasdaq, our annual strategic partner, for their hosting and participation. Please sign up and ask questions through our online webinar facility and if you can't join us live, do register anyway so that you can listen to the recording at your convenience.

Onwards and upwards, MEIRA, it's a year of IR engagement so let's do it!

Best wishes,

**John Gollifer**

**MEIRA General Manager**

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## Events

### What's coming?

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**20 Feb - Webinar - 2019: Market predictions for the changing investment landscape**

We would like to remind you that MEIRA, in collaboration with Nasdaq, is organising an exclusive webinar on the **20th of February at 1 pm GST**. We will welcome regional and international speakers who will share their views on ESG, MiFID II and shareholder activism, among other matters that any capital market practitioner should consider for the upcoming months.

**Speakers**

- > Moderator: John Gollifer, MEIRA General Manager
- > Sofia El Boury, Head of Investor Relations, FAB, and MEIRA Vice-Chair
- > Robert Ford, Executive Director, Governance Gurus
- > Patrick Hughes, Director, Nasdaq Corporate Advisory Services
- > Jennifer Ramsey, Head of Investor Relations, Rolls-Royce

**[More details](#)**



**6 March - MiFID II: 1 year on (seminar & networking event) - Dubai, UAE**

MEIRA and the CFA Society Emirates are organising a seminar on the **6th of March** at the Ritz Carlton in Dubai. During the session, delegates will have the opportunity to discuss the key findings from a survey conducted by CFA Institute regarding MiFID II regulation and the main implications one year after its implementation. The seminar will be followed by a networking cocktail.

If you are attending the EFG Hermes Conference in Dubai, don't miss the opportunity to join us

for an interactive evening with your IR peers.

[Agenda and registration here](#)

## **2019 MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards**



### **2019 MEIRA Best Practice IR Awards - Votes will open in one month!**

Extel Europe/MENA Survey 2019 will run from **11 March to 12 April, 2019**. IR winners in the Middle East will be announced at the MEIRA IR awards ceremony, which will take place on 25 September, 2019.

In order to secure the highest possible ranks in the survey results, read the **2019 Corporate Briefing Guide** carefully.

[More details](#)

### **2019 Calendar of Events**

**MEIRA & Nasdaq Webinar:** 20 February (Online) *Members only*

**MiFID II: 1 year on seminar:** 6 March (Dubai, UAE)

**MEIRA Saudi Chapter & Bloomberg IR Breakfast:** 27 March (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) *Members only*

**Middle East Investment Summit:** 23 - 24 April (Dubai, UAE)

**2019 MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards:** 25 September (Dubai, UAE)

[Check our online calendar of events](#)

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## **International Conferences**

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## International Conferences Calendar

**JP Morgan Global Emerging Markets Corporate Conference:** 27 Feb - 1 March (Miami, USA)

**EFG Hermes 15th Annual One-on-One Conference 2019:** 4 - 6 March (Dubai, UAE)

**HSBC Saudi Arabia Investor Forum:** 5 - 7 March (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia)

**JP Morgan Global Markets Conference:** 13 March (Paris, France)

**Goldman Sachs 7th CEEMEA Corporate Days:** TBC March (Frankfurt, Germany)

**UBS EMEA Corporate Days:** 10-11 April (Singapore, Singapore)

**Morgan Stanley EEMEA Conference:** 14-15 May (London, UK)

**BAML Emerging Markets Debt & Equity Conference:** 28-31 May (Miami, USA)

**HSBC GEMs Investor Forum:** 10-12 Jun (New York, USA)

**HSBC GEMs Investor Forum:** 4-6 Sep (London, UK)

**EFG Hermes 9th Annual London Conference:** 9-12 Sep (London, UK)

**Arqaam MENA Conference:** 23-24 Sep (Dubai, UAE)

**Goldman Sachs 7th CEEMEA Corporate Days:** TBC Sep (Frankfurt, Germany)

**Goldman Sachs 11th CEEMEA 1x1 Conference:** 11-12 Nov (London, UK)

**UBS GEM Conference:** 3-4 Dec (New York, USA)

*For a complete list, contact [Closir 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 2019

- **Abu Dhabi:** 25 - 26 - 27 June
- **Dubai:** 29 - 30 - 31 October

[Register now!](#)

### The Introduction to Investor Relations course

This one-day course provides an introduction to financial markets, Investor Relations and the financial environment in which Investor

### Introduction to IR Calendar 2019

- **Abu Dhabi:** 25 June
- **Dubai:** 29 October

[Register now!](#)

Relations professionals work.

[Read more](#)

Are you looking for a bespoke or  
in-house training?

[Contact us](#)

## Careers

أرامكو السعودية  
saudi aramco



### Investor Relations Professional (Saudi Arabia)

Saudi Aramco is looking for an Investor Relations Professional. This role will manage relationships with external stakeholders and will effectively communicate company strategy and performance to investors and analysts.

[Download the job offer here](#)

[Check all the IR job offers](#)

## Members



### Do you want to join MEIRA?

Don't miss the opportunity to join our IR community and become a member today.

You just need to fill our [membership form](#) and send it to [info@meira.me](mailto:info@meira.me) in order to finalise the process.

We are looking forward to welcoming you!

[Membership form](#)

Share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends





#### **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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