



MEIRA Newsletter

12 March 2020

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

Weekend reading list

- > Pragmatism, Not Panic. *Lumi* [Read more](#)
- > Capital flows to emerging markets see 'dramatic collapse' as virus spreads. *The National* [Read more](#)
- > The circular economy: embedding sustainable solutions in a bid to save the planet. *Zain* [Read more](#)

MEIRA Updates



Reminder!

We would like to remind to all the existing CIRO candidates who haven't taken their CIRO exam yet, that they will need to take it **by 31 May** if they want to be examined on the materials reviewed during their course.

The MEIRA CIRO, offered in partnership with the IR Society, UK, will have a new study guide in 2020 and the exam papers after this date will be based on the most updated version of this new guide which includes new sections and reviewed content.



Notes from the GM

Hello, here we are in mid-March, spring, the king or queen of seasons, is around the corner and yet, there's a distinct feeling of fear and to some extent, loathing, in our markets today. This is perhaps inevitable and possibly better than greed - this is, after all, what markets do, react and overdo it in the short-term as we try to make sense of it all. However, once the fear passes and it should, let's stop beating ourselves up and prepare for the rest of our IR year. Look at your programme and start marking that calendar again.

What else can we do in the current environment? It's back to basics for all of us for now:

1. Let's be responsible and look after ourselves. This means thinking of others and if necessary, keeping to yourself if you are unwell or have had to travel - give yourself a chance to get over any possibility of having picked something up. The word 'quarantine' has its origin in the meaning for 40 days, being the time needed historically to isolate yourself and get over anything untoward. You don't need that long, the practice today being 14 days for seasonal ailments and other illnesses.
2. Working from home is more common and acceptable. We all work differently and the reality is that flexible working, along with a sensible work-life balance given different priorities, is here to stay and why not?
3. Above all, use the time we now have to do the things that haven't been done and plan for the comeback which will arrive before we know it. For starters, make sure that you enter your team in the MEIRA IR Best Practice Awards, based on the 2020 Emerging EMEA Executive Team survey conducted by Institutional Investor - hurry, it's open until 3 April 2020.

Stay well and let's keep in contact with all our stakeholders, making your IR the strategic communication for all seasons and sharing what's going on, good timely information being the lifeblood of IR. Well done to all MEIRA Chapter groups and others for continuing to use social media, among other IR channels and platforms, to do this. It certainly helps, along with the odd dose of humour, as dark as that can be - we need it sometimes, otherwise we can lose perspective.

And finally, let's not forget that this time, like all seasons, will pass. Let's learn from it and life goes on, as sure as the sun will rise, wherever you are, tomorrow - it is said, after all, that sunlight is the best of disinfectants. Spring is almost here, so let's be ready, people, for a new start. Less fear and greed, less loathing!

Best wishes,

Events

Upcoming events



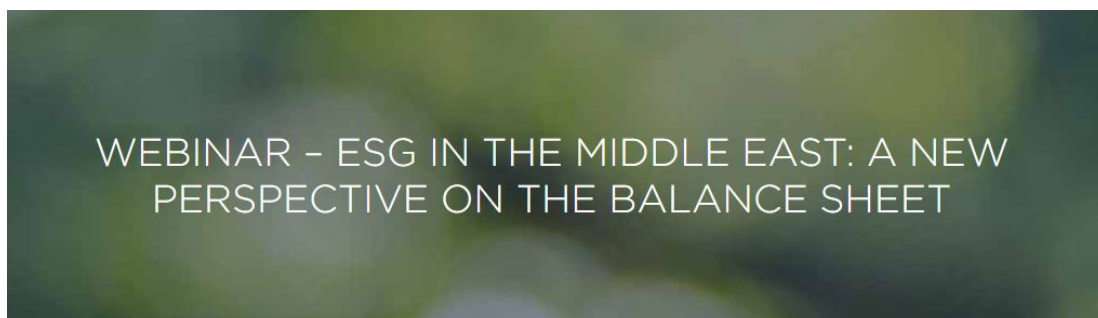
24 March - Webinar - Global trends in Investor Relations (by BNY Mellon)

On behalf of BNY Mellon, MEIRA Annual Strategic Partner, we would like to invite you to a webinar titled "Global Trends in Investor Relations". The session will take place on Tuesday, 24 March at 5.00 pm (GST).

Who is driving the global ESG agenda—issuers or investors? The structure of the sell side is changing—how is that affecting investor relations teams? What tweaks are investor relations (IR) teams making to their strategies going into the new decade, and what global issues do they think will impact the markets the most in the 2020s?

Join the webinar to discuss the findings in the twelfth edition of Global Trends in Investor Relations based on the responses from the 335 IR professionals from 41 countries that participated in the latest BNY Mellon Global IR Survey.

[To register click here](#)



1 April - MEIRA Webinar - ESG in the Middle East: a new perspective on the balance sheet

on the balance sheet”.

The participants will have the opportunity to understand the importance of disclosing non-financial information on their ESG performance and how it links to investor and broader stakeholder relations. In addition, our speakers will share insight on investors’ approach to incorporating ESG metrics in investment decisions and some practical tips on how to meet investors’ expectations on non-financial reporting.

[More information and registration here](#)

MEIRA Calendar of Events

MEIRA ESG Webinar: 1 April (Online) *Members only*

MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards Dinner: 23 September (Dubai, UAE)



Conference venue: Address Sky View preferred rates

As announced last week, the 2020 MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards Dinner, "MEIRA 20/20 Vision: Driving stakeholder value", will take place at the **Address Sky View Dubai**. The hotel opened its doors in December 2019 and it is located in the heart of Downtown Dubai.

Preferred rates are now available for MEIRA delegates at Address Sky View and at Manzil Downtown.

The available dates are from 20 September to 27 September. Delegates can get a discount on the best available rate at the moment of the reservation. Full free cancellation 29 days prior to arrival date.

To make your booking, please click [here](#).



2020 MEIRA IR Awards Best Practice Category - Votes are open!

The 2020 Emerging EMEA Executive Team survey, now fully integrated with Extel, is open. IR winners in the Middle East will be announced at the MEIRA IR awards ceremony, which will take place on September 23, 2020. Between March 2 and April 3, both buy-side and sell-side can give their views on the IR performance of corporates and individual IR professionals based in the Middle East.

In order to secure the highest possible ranks in the survey results, don't forget to Insert the "[Survey Vote](#)" marketing banner (download) on your corporate website and your signature hyperlinked to [Institutional Investor website](#).

Training

CIRO programme

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

CIRO Calendar 2020

> **Abu Dhabi:** 9 - 10 - 11 June

> **Dubai:** November

[Read More](#)

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 Relations professionals work.

[Read More](#)

Introduction to IR Calendar 2020

> **Abu Dhabi:** 9 June

> **Dubai:** November

[Register now!](#)

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

[Contact us](#)

Members

**We are delighted to count on the support of our renewed member
(5 - 12 March 2020 period):**



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 in order to finalise the process.

We are looking forward to welcoming you!

Share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends



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Forward

With the support of our annual strategic partners



ANNUAL STRATEGIC PARTNERS



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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