



2 February 2023

Weekend reading list

Investor relations (IR) and IPOs: A journey of co-existence ([Middle East Economy](#))

14th Global Annual IR Survey ([Citigate Dewe Rogerson](#))

How corporate governance factors drive ESG integration ([Thomson Reuters](#))

MEIRA Updates



Notes from the GM

Greetings Team MEIRA, I hope your year is well underway and all those New Year Resolutions are working for you. What about professional development goals? It's never too late!

As I celebrate a 60th birthday – wow, that came fast(!) – I thought it timely and relevant to remind ourselves why we persist in studying, seek professional qualifications and keep going.

year. I had asked our MEIRA Board directors how many of them had the CIRO, the much coveted IR qualification we offer in partnership with the UK IR Society. The IR certificate is used in many markets around the world from China to Chile with over 2,000 passes worldwide to date, 10% of which are in our region. When recently leading a CIRO Bootcamp, I was asked the same question of whether I had the CIRO. Suddenly, if not somewhat abashed, I felt compelled to take the test myself. After all, I have promoted the CIRO for 15 years and taught IR contents for longer than that without giving it two thoughts, as you conveniently do, to taking the actual exam.

We often think our study days are behind us – quite so, if you have been through the customary mill of rote learning – but continuous professional development is different. Since I started work in London in 1985, I have taken at least six sets of exams, all professionally driven, including having to meet local market requirements from London to Jakarta. When I finally sat the CIRO exam in December, I hadn't done an exam for 20 years. It's easy to forget how stressful it can be under exam conditions and allow your mind to wander, if not give up when you thought you knew it all – don't!

The CIRO is based on a comprehensive Study Guide, the best IR reference material I know – it's updated every few years to meet market needs across all key technical and market areas for IR practitioners. As part of the CIRO registration, you are given access to a mock test database to hone your knowledge prior to the exam – you can try that as many times as you like. The exam consists of 60 multiple choice questions – all the answers are there in front of you – and you have 60 minutes to complete it. The pass mark is 65%, so you have a reasonable margin for error if there are particularly tricky questions or if you don't understand all the questions. Sometimes, the English language can flummox even native speakers and it is part of the exam to test you and your knowledge of the Study Guide. If you prepare, you will pass.

I urge everyone from Board members to IR students for life to give it a go! It is the longest running and best known international IR qualification out there, as far as I am concerned. It is important to stay on top of your game and the CIRO will test you, as it should. In the end, you stand to gain a credible and much sought after qualification – ask fellow CIROs and prospective employers. It's never too late to teach an ol' dog (make that a water rabbit) new tricks, we swear by it, so try it!

Stay well and see you all soon, if not at the next [CIRO Bootcamp and exam sitting](#).

Best wishes,

John Gollifer, CIRO



Events

meira
2023/

from ESG to
Sustainable
Capital Markets

13 nov 2023
MANAMA, BAHRAIN

 **meira**

 **بورصة البحرين**
BAHRAIN BOURSE

For our 15-year anniversary celebration, we are honoured to partner with Bahrain Bourse as the 2023 MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards Ceremony host.

Bahrain Bourse has been a long-standing MEIRA partner, including part of the MEIRA Board of Directors. This joint initiative shows Bahrain Bourse's commitment to promoting Investor Relations best practice as a fundamental pillar for a healthy and transparent capital market ecosystem.

buttons below to know all the details!

Registration

Sponsorship

Microsite

MEIRA Events Calendar 2023

FEB
6

IR Awards Webinar

FEB
12-13

Saudi Capital Markets Awards 2022

FEB
22

S&P Global Market Intelligence Dubai Conference
Keeping Pace. Seeking Opportunities

MAR
6

CIRO Bootcamp / Intro to IR

MAR
12

MEIRA roadshow in GCC

MAR
13

Bahrain Chapter meeting

MAR
14

Oman Chapter meeting

MAR
15

KSA Chapter meeting

MAR
17

UAE Chapter meeting

MAR
27

Integrating ESG / Sustainability into IR

IR AWARDS WEBINAR

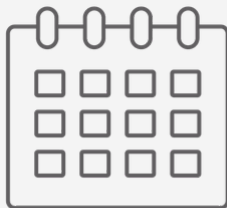
Want to win an IR award, coming soon, a webinar to address all you ever wanted to know!

We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming webinar on IR Awards with **Amani Korayeim**, Director at II Research Europe & EMEA of Institutional Investor, **Rayan Al-Karawi**, founder and Chairman of MEIRA KSA as well as a member of the main MEIRA Board and **Sofia El Boury**, MEIRA Vice-Chair and Head of Investor Relations at First Abu Dhabi Bank. The webinar will be moderated by **John Gollifer** General Manager at MEIRA.

The Institutional Investor IR Awards, proudly offered in partnership with MEIRA, begin the MEIRA Awards calendar. Join us on 6 February at 1–2 pm (UAE time) to hear from experts and past winners – how do you begin your own process of continuous improvement and how do you prepare to compete among your IR peers?

Registration

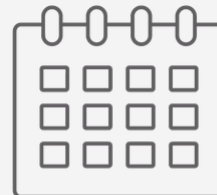
Professional Development



27
March

Integrating ESG into IR

Do you want to understand ESG from an IR perspective? Join this 4-hour online training course to learn the principles of ESG and sustainability reporting.



6
March

CIRO Bootcamp

Do you want to get certified as an IRO? Register for the 1-day online bootcamp to get ready for your CIRO exam. We will review the content and share some useful tips too.



Head of IR / IR Director

Jamjoom Pharma is looking for a Head of IR /IR Director to be based in Saudi Arabia.

[More details](#)



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