



# MEIRA Newsletter

Your weekly IR publication

7 December

## Weekend reading list

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**Balancing ambition with reality** ([FTI Consulting](#))

**COP28: UAE president announces \$30 billion climate fund** ([Arab Times](#))

**Riyadh aims to transform into global sustainability hub by 2030 with \$92bn Expo investment** ([Arab News](#))

**What banks really mean when they put trillions into ESG** ([Bloomberg](#))

## MEIRA Updates

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A message from Paolo Casamassima



Dear Members and Partners,

As-Salaam-Alaikum.

I am honoured and delighted to introduce myself as the new CEO of MEIRA.

The global market conditions over the past 18–24 months suggest that the region is currently experiencing a rare sweet spot in the capital markets. This is a pivotal moment for the Middle East to solidify its position as a leading capital market.

The opportunities to elevate issuers, attract investment, and strive for greater engagement are all around us. As a passionate advocate of Investor Relations with a keen interest in the

Middle Eastern market, I am thrilled to join the region and embark on this journey together with each and every one of you.

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to the MEIRA Board of Directors for entrusting me with this prestigious role. I would also like to acknowledge my predecessor, John Gollifer, for his outstanding contributions over the past 5 years in elevating the IR practice in the region. His efforts in setting new standards through training, bringing the IR community together, and organizing memorable events have been commendable.

MEIRA has been championing IR in the region for 15 years, and I am fully committed to upholding our mission of promoting IR best practice, fostering transparency, and enhancing the region's capital markets. I am truly excited about the opportunity to take MEIRA to even greater heights in the months and years to come.

As the new CEO of MEIRA, my vision is for the Association to continue being the champion for Investor Relations and the go-to point for members, partners, and supporters from across the region and beyond. My primary focus will be on advancing the interests of our members and ensuring that the Association remains at the forefront of industry developments. I firmly believe that by collaborating with

all stakeholders, we can create an environment that nurtures investors' confidence and facilitates sustainable growth.

MEIRA will continue to expand its already extensive range of professional development programmes, educational resources, and networking opportunities. We will strive to equip our members with the necessary tools and knowledge to successfully navigate the ever-evolving world of IR. Furthermore, we will actively engage with regulatory bodies and market participants to advocate for policies that bolster transparency, corporate governance, and investor protection.

In line with our goals, we aim to open the Association to institutional investors, creating new channels to support IROs in understanding the needs and expectations of the capital markets from an Investor Relations, regulatory, and disclosure perspective.

As a region known for its leadership in Islamic finance and Sharia'h principles, I believe these strongly align with ESG and Sustainability principles. There is an opportunity to build even greater understanding and awareness about Islamic finance and the positive impact it can have on our organisations and communities across the Middle East.

I will be working closely with an excellent Board of Directors, and together, we aim to provide all the support and benefits that MEIRA's membership offers. Furthermore, I want to emphasise that MEIRA's success ultimately rests on the collective efforts and contributions of our esteemed members. I encourage each one of you to actively participate in our events, share your insights, and collaborate with fellow professionals. Together, we can shape the future of IR in the Middle East and position our region as a global hub for investment.

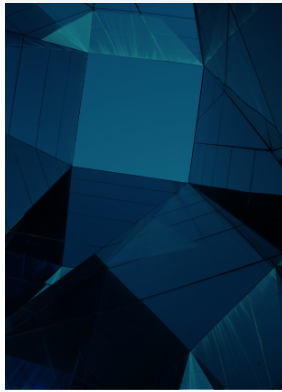
In the coming weeks, I look forward to meeting you personally and hearing your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Your valuable input will be instrumental in shaping the strategic direction of MEIRA, ensuring that it remains a dynamic and valuable resource for all members and partners.

I am genuinely excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for MEIRA and the IR community in the Middle East. With your support and active involvement, I am confident that we can achieve remarkable progress and make a lasting impact.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to the IR profession, and I eagerly anticipate the privilege of working alongside all of you.

Warmest regards,

Paolo Casamassima  
CEO, Middle East Investor Relations Association



## Middle East Capital Markets Survey



### Middle East Capital Markets Survey

We are pleased to present the findings of the 2023 Middle East Capital Markets Survey, conducted in partnership between the Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) and the Arab Federation of Capital Markets (AFCM). This survey was meticulously designed to gather valuable insights and feedback concerning the current state of IR practices in the MENA region, but also the overall perception of the regional markets. Our objective was to delve into various aspects, including ESG considerations, disclosure practices, market structure, foreign ownership, and other pertinent topics.

[Download it here](#)

## Events

**meira**

**MEIRA KSA  
CHAPTER  
MEETING**

December 17th

16:00 - 18:00

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

[More Information](#)

**meira**

**MEIRA OMAN  
CHAPTER  
MEETING**

December 18th

10:00 - 12:00

Muscat, Oman

[More Information](#)

## Professional development



## INTEGRATING ESG/SUSTAINABILITY INTO IR



**Mike Tyrrell**  
Editor

 January 29

 Online



MEIRA is delighted to partner with SRI-Connect, a pioneer in understanding and addressing sustainability issues for IR, and SITA (Sustainable Investment Training Associates), to offer an ESG/sustainability training course for IR practitioners.

- Date: 29th January 2024
- Format: Online
- Duration: 4 Hours

To know more information, [click here](#)

## Careers

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**Aldar Properties PJSC** is looking for a Vice President – Investor Relations.

[Click here](#) to read the job description, and if your profile fits in, don't hesitate to apply for the position and send your CV.

## Membership

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### New Member



### Equitory

Equitory is a dedicated Investor Relations consultancy. Its team has extensive experience

leading investor communication strategies, along with helping companies through the IPO process and with the establishment of IR functions.

Equitory's services cover:

- **Investor Relations Advisory:** Building and delivering equity and debt IR programmes on an outsourced basis or working alongside in-house IR teams.

- **Investor Relations Transaction Support:** Setting up IR functions for pre-IPO companies, including training of internal teams, and support for listed companies in managing investor communication during a large transaction.
- **Investor Relations Content:** Drafting content for investor presentations, corporate websites, Annual Reports, Capital Markets Days, and undertaking Investor Perception Studies.

Equitory hosts the leading Investor Relations podcast, Enquire, which brings together IR and capital markets professionals to share their experiences, best practices and offer listeners insights and ideas in the dynamic world of IR.

[www.equitory.com](http://www.equitory.com)

[Enquire, the Investor Relations podcast](#)



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