

Press release

News from the International Capital Market Association (ICMA)

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www.icmagroup.org

Please see foot of release for contact details

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For immediate release

New ICMA Regional Head in the Middle East

(Zurich - Switzerland) The International Capital Market Association (ICMA) is pleased to announce that Robert H. Mohamed will be the new chairman for the ICMA Middle East, Far East and Africa region. In this capacity Mr Mohamed will coordinate the Association's activities in support of its member firms in the region, with particular emphasis on the Gulf where he is located.

The appointment of Mr Mohamed complements the recent appointment of Dubai-based John Eldredge from Emirates NBD to the ICMA Board which underlines ICMA's support for the development of well functioning financial markets in this economically significant region.

ICMA's priorities include: building a community amongst its Gulf based members; promoting dialogue to see where ICMA's experience in the European capital market may benefit the rapidly growing local bond and repo markets; and encouraging the adoption of its internationally recognised standards of market practice for the primary and secondary debt capital market. ICMA also aims to develop the range of its Executive Education programmes to address the needs of the financial community in the Gulf whilst working with local authorities and organisations.

Mr Mohamed is Co-Head of Investment Banking (Debt Capital Markets) in the Corporate and Investment Banking Division at National Bank of Abu Dhabi and has over 20 years of experience in investment banking covering the origination, execution and distribution of a broad range of fixed income products. Immediately prior to joining National Bank of Abu Dhabi in 2008, he worked at Arab Banking Corporation, based in Bahrain, where he was responsible for the origination and execution of regional based funding plans for corporate and financial institution clients. Previously, he worked at Deutsche Bank, London in the global markets division (Debt Capital Markets) for over ten years on a variety of capital raising opportunities and before that for eight years at Merrill Lynch International in the Debt Markets Division.

ICMA's recent activities in the Gulf include partnership with the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) specifically in the area of education as well as its work with the Islamic International Financial Market to develop market practice and documentation for the Sukuk market.

ICMA's membership includes financial institutions from 12 countries in the Middle East, Far East and Africa region.

Notes for editors:

1. International Capital Market Association (ICMA)

ICMA is the self-regulatory organisation and trade association representing the financial institutions active in the international capital market worldwide. ICMA's members are located more than 40 countries across the globe, including all the world's main financial centres. ICMA's market conventions and standards have been the pillars of the international debt market for over 40 years, providing the self regulatory framework of rules governing market practice which have facilitated the orderly functioning and growth of the market. ICMA actively promotes the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the capital markets by bringing together market participants including regulatory authorities and governments. See: www.icmagroup.org

2. ICMA's regions

ICMA has a strong regional organisation, with each of the twelve regions having its own regional committee which meets to deal with specific regional matters. Members may take part in the committee of their respective region, led by a regional chairman who, like the rest of the committee, is an active market participant from a member financial institution. The Committee of Regional Representatives (comprised of the twelve regional chairmen) reports directly to the board of ICMA, enabling the viewpoints of each region to be fully represented.

3. ICMA Communications

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