

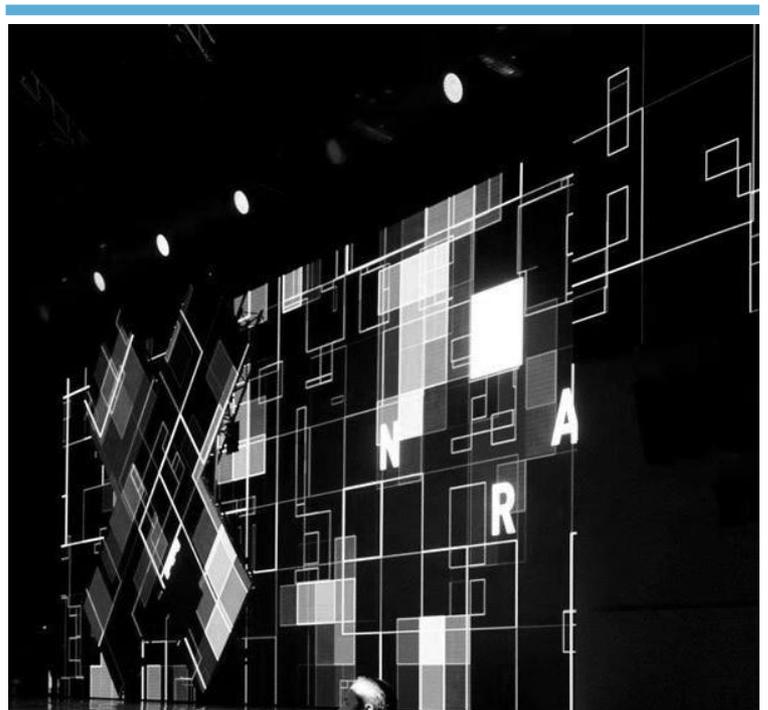
# FEAS NEWSLETTER

Special Interview with the CEO of Boursa Kuwait

December 2019



FEDERATION OF EURO-ASIAN  
STOCK EXCHANGES



## FEAS 28TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING IN OMAN, MUSCAT



The Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS) held the 28th Annual General Assembly and Working Committee Meeting in Muscat, Oman on 23 October, 2019. This year, the event was hosted by FEAS Member Muscat Securities Market. The one-day event had brought together the executives of the stock exchanges and CSDs of the members of the federation. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the ongoing work of FEAS and its agenda.

Having Research and Task Forces as two basic pillars of FEAS strategy, today's Working Committee discussed and accepted the results of Task Forces about Investor Relations, Financial Literacy, Rules & Regulations, and Sustainable Stock Exchanges. The following reports were introduced to the WoCo as a part of FEAS Secretariat's researches: Trading and Listing Rules - FEAS Secretariat presented the comparative analysis of FEAS member stock exchanges' trading and listing rules by combining the business processes into a comparable matrices. From now on each and every member of FEAS has a vision and details of each other's rules that can be a great ground for regulation synchronization and harmonization. For the third consecutive year, FEAS Secretariat is preparing specially designed Business Effectiveness Report (BER), comprehensive research of financial and operational activities of FEAS member exchanges, and their comparison in terms of efficiency.

New data mining project on market structure was introduced to the Working Committee.

## DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING, THE FEDERATION OF EURO-ASIAN STOCK EXCHANGES ELECTS WORKING COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR, THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND VICE-CHAIR

Iran Fara Bourse is reelected as FEAS Working Committee Vice-Chair.

**FEAS New Audit Committee Members are:**

*Damascus Securities Exchange (Vice-Chair)*  
*Toshkent Republican Stock Exchange*  
*Muscat Clearing and Depository*  
*Astana International Securities Exchange*



**FEAS Three New Board Members are:**

*Amman Stock Exchange*  
*Iran Fara Bourse*  
*Tehran Stock Exchange*



## FEAS MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE NETWORK FORUM MIDDLE EAST MEETING 2019

Middle East Meeting took place on October 21-22. Attended by more than 100 senior professionals from the world of securities services, asset management, financial technology and market regulation, TNF in Muscat covered a lot of ground, discussing the opportunities and challenges currently facing the Middle East region.



FEAS Secretary General Konstantin Saroyan moderated panel discussion "Exchanges in focus: Where is the market headed?" with the participation of FEAS Chairman Ahmed Saleh Al Marhoon from Muscat Securities Market and Ahmad Aweidah from Palestine Exchange.

## INTERVIEW WITH THE CEO OF BOURSA KUWAIT MR. MOHAMMAD SAUD AL-OSAIMI

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Over the past few years, we have made a substantial difference at the company and we continue to pioneer this journey of growth and raise the profile of the stock market regionally and internationally.

At **Boursa Kuwait**, we strive to contribute to the development of Kuwait's economy and participate in the achievement of the country's development goals.”

- *Mohammad Saud Al-Osaimi* -  
CEO of Boursa Kuwait



### **1. How is Boursa Kuwait keeping up with the new developments and improvements of the capital market?**

- Our Market Development plan is in its third phase, which includes the introduction of products like real estate investment trusts (REITs), short selling and SLBs, security swaps and tender offers. We're constantly building on that and making sure we meet the highest international standards and best in class practices to satisfy the needs of our issuer and investor bases. Our commitment to raising the standards of the Kuwaiti capital market, which has recently seen upgrades in both the FTSE Russell and S&P Dow Jones indices, is a further indictment of our commitment to excellence.

### **2. How has Boursa Kuwait improved its standing in the global investment community?**

- We have been working with partners from across the capital markets community, locally and abroad, to introduce new products and services. Additionally, Boursa Kuwait's continuous pursuit of international recognition, accreditation and upgrades from international credit ratings agencies and indices providers, such as MSCI or FTSE Russell and S&P Dow Jones, entails compliance with global transparency standards.

Bursa Kuwait has a deep conviction that visibility is a pivotal market driver set to reaffirm the investors' informed decisions. In order to improve such a driver, Bursa Kuwait supplies investors with quarterly and annual updates of e-income statements, balance sheets, cash flow statements and financial ratios, as well as daily updates on a number of ratios according to closing price, and charting and comparability capabilities through its many partners.

Bursa Kuwait has also been active with regional and international roadshows and corporate days, raising awareness about emerging investment opportunities in the Kuwaiti capital market while showcasing its attractive and diverse issuer base as well as the recent milestones in its market development journey.

### **3. In what ways can Bursa Kuwait encourage further diversification of issuers and local investors?**

- Bursa Kuwait is keen to diversify and develop its product portfolio in line with international standards, taking solid steps towards continuously introducing new products and services that address market and investor needs as well as reflecting the pace at which Bursa Kuwait is operating and rolling out its market developments and elevating market offerings. Driven by its market development strategy, the stock exchange is focused on infrastructural upgrades, regulatory reforms and the diversification of offerings in a bid to improve the business environment, and expand its issuer and investor bases.

Changes in listing requirements have helped encourage more companies to list. The free float amount is now a fixed number, which aims to solve the previously 'unattractive' issuers' base for family businesses and government entities, while the increase of total shareholders helps address liquidity. New requirements for profitability, whereby listed companies no longer need to show 5% of paid-up capital or 75% revenue from the operation, just proof of operations from certified auditors, gave market participants the opportunity to invest in newly established companies and startups.

### **4. What are the next steps for Bursa Kuwait and the development of the Kuwaiti capital market?**

- Phases 3.2 and 4 of our Market Development plan, which we hope to launch in the next few years, and are working with our partners in the Capital Markets Authority and the Kuwait Clearing Company to finalize, will feature derivatives. Over the past few years, we have made a substantial difference at the company and we continue to pioneer this journey of growth and raise the profile of the stock market regionally and internationally. We are constantly expanding our portfolio with products and services such as intentional crossing orders and omnibus accounts and offering more promising investment opportunities to increase market liquidity. At Bursa Kuwait, we strive to contribute to the development of Kuwait's economy and participate in the achievement of the country's development goals.

## EVENTS, EVENTS EVERYWHERE



Armenuhi shared some of the insights and outcomes of the conference here: [A THING TO ACT.](#)



### CHAINPOINT'19 YEREVAN, ARMENIA

FEAS Secretary General Konstantin Saroyan alongside with the CEO of Armenia Securities Exchange Hayk Yeganyan participated in a panel discussion "Investments in Blockchain" moderated by Crypto expert Henri Arslanian. More about the event here: [CHAINPOINT'19.](#)

## FEAS PARTNER EVENTS

FEAS mission is to contribute to the development and promotion of FEAS Member exchanges, thus, FEAS Values the importance of participating and partnering with the world leading events and conferences of the industry, in this way raising the awareness about both FEAS Member exchanges and federation's itself.



Mondovisione Exchange Forum  
October 1, 2019  
London, UK



Finance Mangers London Summit  
November 12-13, 2019  
London, UK

## INTERESTING TO KNOW...



### CENTRAL DEPOSITORY OF ARMENIA TAKES OVER THE AECSD CHAIRMANSHIP

Central Depository of Armenia takes over the AECSD Chairmanship: AECSD and the EEC Financial Markets Advisory Committee signed a memorandum of cooperation.

For this occasion, Vahan Stepanyan, CEO of Central Depository of Armenia, said, "Signing the memorandum of cooperation is a starting point for the development of further relationships between EEC and AECSD. Partnership on common projects will bring more investment on integration processes of the Eurasian economic



### FEAS' PARTNERS ARAB FEDERATION OF EXCHANGES (AFE) AND AFRICAN SECURITIES EXCHANGES ASSOCIATION (ASEA) SIGN MOU FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAPITAL MARKETS

Under the MoU, the AFE and ASEA have pledged to collaborate in the areas of information sharing, capacity-building and

the promotion of best practices for Arab and African Exchanges.

In his remarks during the signing ceremony, Mr. Mohamed Farid Saleh, Chairman of the Arab Federation of Exchanges and Executive Chairman of The Egyptian Exchange said: "This MoU with ASEA is part of shared vision of transformation of the two regional markets. This collaboration will support AFE's efforts to boost human capital in the African and Arab financial markets by combining the expertise and reach of the AFE and ASEA to deliver joint programs and projects which ultimately will benefit markets of both associations."

### CAPITAL MARKET UNION 2024: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Capital Market Union 2024: FEAS Board Member André Küüsvek, participated in the panel discussion "Interim Report from the European IPO Task Force: Equity Financing the EU".

The event was attended by Lucian Anghel from Bucharest Stock Exchange, Nikolaos



Porfyris from Athens Stock Exchange and Konstantin Saroyan.



## BUCHAREST STOCK EXCHANGE: HISTORIC MOMENT. ROMANIA IS PROMOTED TO EMERGING MARKET STATUS

Romania is promoted to Emerging Market from Frontier Market status, the global index provider FTSE Russell announced on September 26 this year. The reclassification from Frontier to Emerging status will

become effective in September next year.

It's a historic moment for Romania, which had its stock exchange closed during the communist regime and had it reopened for nearly half a century later. When the market reopened in November 1995, it started with 6 companies. Now, the Bucharest Stock Exchange (BVB) has 84 companies listed on the Main Market alone, with a combined capitalization of EUR 36 billion.

*"The Romanian capital market had many obstacles to overcome and it took a long way to get us here. Just think about it: six years ago, we did not even have simultaneous English reporting for listed companies, so foreign investors found it difficult to clearly understand what happened in the market. Now we have in place new and improved market mechanisms, easier access into the market for investors, supportive fiscal environment for institutional investors, transparent and qualitative corporate reporting of issuers, availability of capital market information flow and legislation in English, competitive trading framework, improved corporate governance for listed companies. This new environment has attracted in the recent years new private listings for equities and bonds", said Lucian Anghel, President of the Board at BVB.*



## A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WAS SIGNED BETWEEN TEHRAN AND SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGES

The signing ceremony was held in China. Both parties' officials convened in SSE's premises and signed the documents, aiming to exchange experience, holding **training courses, and cooperation on**

training courses, and cooperation on foreign investment schemes, as well as new instruments initiatives and improving markets' infrastructures among several other issues.

The Iranian delegates also had meetings with different departments of SSE, and China Securities Depository and Clearing (CSDC) to be informed about their operations and reviewing areas of mutual interest.

The Chinese counterparts have been invited to a reciprocal visit to Tehran in order to start implementing the business cooperation.



# C nFEAS

2020

will take place in

# Athens, Greece

hosted by

FEAS Member

**Athens Stock Exchange**

stay tuned...



**THANK YOU  
FOR BEING A  
PART OF FEAS!**

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