

ICIEC Newsletter

Quarterly Publication of The Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit
(a member of Islamic Development Bank Group, Jeddah)



Islamic Corporation for the Insurance
of Investment and Export Credit
(Member of IDB Group, Jeddah)

ICIEC, rated Aa3 by Moody's with a stable outlook, is a multilateral export credit and political risk insurer. ICIEC was established in 1994 by the IDB and member countries of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), with an objective to encourage exports from Member Countries and to facilitate the flow of foreign investment into them by providing and encouraging the use of the principles of Shariah export credit and investment insurance/reinsurance.

www.iciec.com



Jumada-Il 1432H - June 2011
Issue No.

15

Inside This Issue

Business Highlights 2-3

Partners' Cooperation 4-5

Country Development 6

ITAP News and Activities 7

Community News 8

Business Insured

1st Quarter for 1431H (2010)

1st Quarter for 1432H (2011)

US\$403 million

US\$630 million

56%

more on...
P2

More trade and investment support to Africa



ICIEC and the African Trade Insurance Agency (ATI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that aims to provide greater cooperation to provide reinsurance support for trade transactions and projects that benefit exporters and investors conducting business in common Member Countries in sub-Saharan Africa.continued on page 3

“ATI welcomes this partnership with ICIEC which will strengthen insurance protection for African traders who are already trading with Arab countries”
Otieno, ATI's CEO

Jeddah Hosts ICIEC's 18th BOG Annual Meeting

On May 2, 2011 ICIEC held its 63rd Board of Directors (BOD) meeting at the IDB headquarters. The meeting was chaired by ICIEC's Chairman of the BOD, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Ali. Members took note of ICIEC's first Quarter 1432H operation financial results, and agreed to submit ICIEC's 1431H (2010) Annual Report and the financial results to the Board of Governors (BOG) for approval. ... continued on page 3

Moody's Re-affirms Aa3 rating of ICIEC



Moody's Investors Service, one of the leading rating agencies in the world, has reaffirmed the Aa3 insurance financial strength rating (IFSR) which was assigned to ICIEC for the first time in April 2008 and confirmed in October 2009.continued on page 3

“ICIEC is only multilateral export credit and investment insurance corporation in the world that provides Shariah-compatible insurance and reinsurance products, as well as its enhanced regional knowledge based on its experience of operating in the region”

Editorial

I am pleased to report that ICIEC's Business Insured for the first Quarter has registered a strong increase of 56%, reaching USD 630 million. Following the financial crisis, business activity globally, as well as in ICIEC's Member Countries, contracted significantly. The strong performance of the Corporation this year is a reflection of the economic recovery being experienced in ICIEC's Member Countries. The reaffirmation of Aa3 rating by Moody's for the third consecutive year, clearly demonstrates the confidence of the rating agency in ICIEC's status as an efficient and financially sound entity capable of meeting its insurance obligations.

On May 2, 2011, the Board of Directors (BOD) of ICIEC held its 63rd meeting at the IDB headquarters and reviewed the results of the first Quarter's operations of ICIEC. The Board appreciated the significant increase in the Business Insured, and encouraged the Corporation to double its efforts to achieve better

technical results by the end of the year.

I am also pleased to report that during the Quarter, ICIEC and the African Trade Insurance Agency (ATI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that aims to promote greater cooperation between the two entities. ICIEC and ATI will cooperate in providing reinsurance support for trade transactions and projects that benefit exporters and investors conducting business in common Member Countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

The IDB Group has been emphasizing the importance of increasing its intervention in Africa; ICIEC's MOU with ATI, which is a multilateral Export Credit Insurance Agency with 18 African Member Countries, is expected to play an important role in this regard.

Dr. Abdel-Rahman Taha,
ICIEC's Chief Executive Officer

Business Highlights

ICIEC's First Quarter Report Shows an Increase of 56% in Insured Business

The Corporation's business insured during the first Quarter has shown an increase of 56%, reaching USD 630 million as compared to USD 403 million achieved last year. This increase has come about following the activation of a number of new policies issued by the Corporation during the last Quarter of the previous year. Additionally, with the global economy recovering from the financial crisis, business volumes have continued to pick up.

New insurance commitments for the first Quarter were USD 681 million, which is roughly comparable to USD 710 million achieved in the same period last year.

ICIEC Signs 3rd DCIP in Turkey



After issuing ICIEC's first DCIP in Turkey for Kuveyt Turk Bank in October 2010, DCIP has been gaining popularity among Turkish Banks. In May 2011, ICIEC issued its third DCIP with another participation bank, Bank Asya. Under this policy, ICIEC will cover the Letters of Credit (LCs) confirmed by Bank Asya. ICIEC's DCIP will help Bank Asya to extend its LC confirmation portfolio to additional banks all over the world, particularly in some challenging countries where Bank Asya would normally not confirm LCs without ICIEC's support.

Bank Asya also has a partnership with the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD) within the IDB Group

and it promotes interest-free banking sector throughout Africa.

Established in 1996, Bank Asya provides interest-free banking services. 47.5% of its shares are held by 252 different shareholders. The remaining 52.5% of the shares are traded on the Istanbul Stock Exchange.

Bank Asya is the largest participation bank in its segment by asset size and represented 1.4% of total Turkish banking system (ranking 13th of 49). It has a market share of 1.7% of total deposits ranking 10th. Bank Asya will continue to expand its branch network to 180 branches by the end of the first Quarter of 2011.

ICIEC Signs a DCIP of USD 100mn with SABB - KSA



In May 2011, ICIEC and The Saudi British Bank (SABB) signed a Documentary Credit Insurance Policy (DCIP) that provides SABB with coverage for Letters of Credit (LCs) confirmed by SABB. This will enable SABB to increase its capacity for LCs issued by foreign banks while helping it to effectively manage some of its international bank risks.

SABB was incorporated in 1978 as a Joint Stock Company. HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations owns 40% of SABB's shares, while individual and institutional shareholders own the remaining 60%; the latter are predominantly Saudi citizens.

Since its inception, SABB has grown into a premier financial services group in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a full financial services entity providing services in the areas of Personal Banking, Corporate Banking, Investment Banking, Private Banking, Islamic Banking, Treasury Services, Equity Brokering and Custody, Mutual Funds, and Insurance.

ICIEC Supports a Metro Project in Istanbul, Turkey



ICIEC signed a contract of reinsurance with MIGA, a member of the World Bank Group, for the Kadikoy-Kartal-Kaynarca Metro Project in Istanbul, Turkey, of which MIGA is the primary insurer. The total financing requirement of the project, which was provided by a consortium of banks led by West LB of Germany and which is the subject of this contract of reinsurance, is € 222.6 million. MIGA is providing insurance cover against the risk of Non-Honoring of Sovereign Financial Obligations (NHSFO) by the Municipality of Istanbul to cover the banks' financing for a period of 9.5 years. In turn, ICIEC is providing €15 million reinsurance support to MIGA.

The Kadikoy-Kartal-Kaynarca Metro Project will become the first underground metro line on the Asian side of Istanbul. Phase I of the Project comprises the construction of a 22 km underground metro line, which will serve the main districts from Kadikoy to Kartal with 16 metro stations. Work on this phase started in 2008 but was not fully financed due to the credit crisis

that struck shortly before financial close. Phase II works will consist of tunneling work to extend the metro line by 4.5 km from Kartal to Kaynarca, the construction of a parking and maintenance area and the construction of pedestrian underpasses.

The project is being executed by a consortium of companies consisting of Astaldi of Italy and Makyol and Gulermak of Turkey.

The project is in line with the IDB Group member country partnership strategy (MCPS) for Turkey in supporting infrastructure de-

velopment in the country. The project will help improve the urban mobility and reduce congestion and dependence on roads in Istanbul. It also marks ICIEC's first investment insurance operation in Turkey.



ICIIEC's BOD Holds, 63rd Meeting Jeddah Hosts ICIIEC's 18th BOG Annual Meeting

... continued from page 1.

Members of the BOD appreciated the positive results for the Corporation during the first Quarter of 1432H. The report shows a 56% increase in business insured during the first Quarter; this reached USD 630 million compared to USD 403 million during the first Quarter of 1431H (2009). However, new insurance commitments witnessed a slight decrease of 4% as the Corporation approved USD 681 million of new commitments during the first Quarter as compared to USD 710 million during the same period of 1431H.

The BOD also discussed the Agenda of ICIIEC's 18th BOG meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the 36th Annual Meeting of the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on 29-30 June, 2011.

Additionally, the BOD agreed to submit the proposal of increasing the Share Capital of the Corporation to the Board of Governors. The proposal includes allowing the participation of financial institutions and business enterprises in Member Countries to participate in the capital of the Corporation



Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali, Chairs the 63rd ICIIEC's Board of Directors

through a special class of shares. The increase of the capital will help ICIIEC to expand its insurance capacity and also expand its role in the development of its Member Countries.

Moody's Re-affirms Aa3 rating of ICIIEC

... continued from page 1

Moody's noted that ICIIEC's rating reflects both the stand-alone fundamentals as well as potential support from its shareholder/IDB Group member countries. Thus, despite the absence of explicit guarantees, in the context of its key role as facilitator of trade among Islamic Countries, ICIIEC's rating reflects the strong ability and potentially high willingness of its main ultimate shareholders to support it. Furthermore, Moody's noted that the rating reflects ICIIEC's legal structure and business nature, as the only multilateral export credit and investment insurance corporation in the world that provides Shariah-compatible insurance and reinsurance products, as well as its enhanced regional knowledge based on its experience of operating in the region.

Dr. Abdel Rahman Taha, the Chief Executive Officer of ICIIEC, commented "The reaffirmation of Aa3 rating by Moody's for the third consecutive year clearly demonstrates the confidence of the rating agency in ICIIEC's status as an efficient and financially sound entity capable of meeting its insurance obligations. This rating will strengthen ICIIEC ability to provide world-class insurance and reinsurance support to exporters in member countries and investors world-wide who are interested in investing in ICIIEC member countries"

More trade and investment support to Africa ICIIEC and ATI to Strengthen Support to Exporters and Investors in Africa

... continued from page 1

The MOU was signed at ATI headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. CEO of ICIIEC, Dr. Abdel Rahman El-Tayeb Taha signed the MOU on behalf of ICIIEC while CEO of ATI, Mr. George Otieno signed on behalf of ATI.

Under the terms of the MOU, ICIIEC and ATI will reinsure each other on trade transactions and projects supporting their respective Member Countries. They will also explore the possibility of formalizing a debt Collection Agreement in order to collaborate on the recovery of paid claims. Both institutions will offer political risk and trade credit insurance to enhance trade and investment flows in common Member Countries in Africa.

Dr. Taha expressed his confidence that under the signed MOU, ICIIEC and ATI will play an important role in supporting their common Member Countries to increase their exports and investors, thus doing more business in the African continent.

Mr. Otieno, ATI's CEO noted, "The events in the Middle East and North Africa have shown how quickly countries rated as relatively stable can become high risk. ATI welcomes this partnership with ICIIEC which will strengthen insurance protection for African traders who are already trading with Arab countries as well as those who may be seeking opportunities in that region over the coming months."

It is important to note that both ICIIEC and ATI are among the strongest rated financial institutions in their respective regions. ICIIEC is rated Aa3 by Moody's while ATI has a long term A rating from S&P, ranking it the second highest institution in Africa after the African Development Bank.



Partners' Cooperation

ATI Event: ICIEC Participates in ATI's 2nd Annual Roundtable on the Impact of Risk on African Trade & Investments



Recently, the CEO of ICIEC, Dr. Abdel Rahman Taha participated as a panelist at a session on the challenges and opportunities in private investment in Africa and the Middle East. The event took place on the sidelines of ATI's 10th anniversary celebrations on May 18, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nairobi.

In his presentation Dr. Taha gave a briefing on Islamic Finance Structures. He also reported the IDB Group's and ICIEC's involvement with its Member Countries with a special focus on Africa. Also highlighted were ICIEC's activities in Africa with case studies of some transactions insured by the ICIEC.

The event was an effective platform for the public and private sectors to discuss Africa's risk outlook and proposals on how to better assist investors and traders in order to push Africa to the next level of development. The participants included Ministers from several African countries plus heads of international and African private sector companies.

14th OIC Private Sector Meeting OIC Countries to Strengthen Ties with ICIEC

Under the patronage of His Highness Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Member of the Ruling Council and Ruler of Sharjah, ICIEC participated in the 14th Private Sector Meeting for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture Investment among Islamic Countries held on April 24-25, 2011. The theme of the conference was "SMEs in Developing Economies of OIC Countries and the Role of Private Sector."

In parallel with the meeting ICIEC participated in the 13th Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Expo during April 24-29, 2011. This was organized by the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade and the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry under the theme "Economic partnership and sustainable development." The event aimed at increasing co-operation, trade exchanges and joint investments among all participating companies from the 57 Member States of the OIC.

Both events were inaugurated by H.H. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qassimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah. During the event CEO of ITFC, Dr. Waleed Al-Wohaib delivered the speech of President of the IDB Group, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Ali. He highlighted the significance of increasing intra-Islamic trade as an important means for development at large, as well as utilizations of resources and assisting in poverty alleviation, and underscored the significance of SMEs and their impact on trade and investment on the overall development of the region.

Also emphasized was the importance of insurance of export as an essential mechanism for promoting commercial exchanges among OIC Member States. They called upon the Member Countries to establish national guarantee agencies and to strengthen their cooperation with ICIEC so as to benefit from its services offered to exporters, investors and financial institutions.



Berne Union Members Support \$1.4 Trillion Global Trade and Investment in 2010

Members of the Berne Union facilitated \$1.4 trillion of exports and investments; this represents 10% of global export and investment flows.

The 2010 result has almost reached the record level of 2008, demonstrating the impact Berne Union members have on global trade and investment. "Our members insure companies against losses stemming from payment defaults and political events, and this risk mitigation plays a vital role in allowing exporters, investors and financiers to trade safely, especially when the economic environment is uncertain," said Kimberly Wiehl, the Secretary General of the Berne Union.

"Since the start of the year, we have had a series of events that have significantly influenced the global risk environment," said Angus Armour, President of the Berne Union, "but the financial crisis demonstrated the resilience of the industry. The outlook for 2011 remains positive."

The above figures were presented during the spring meeting held on April 11-13, 2011 in Taipei, Taiwan.

ICIEC Welcomes New IDB/ICIEC Executive Director for Pakistan



Honourable Abdul Majid Rana has been appointed by the Government of Pakistan as Executive Director for Pakistan in the IDB Board of Executive Directors, and ICIEC's Board of Directors representing Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan and is to replace Honourable Sibtain Fazal Halim who retired from the service of the Government of Pakistan on March 3, 2011.

Honorable Abdul Majid is the Secretary, Economic Affairs Division in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Statistics of Pakistan. He holds a Master of Business Administration with specialization in Economics, and Master of Finance from Saint Louis University, Missouri in USA (1987-89).

The CEO of ICIEC welcomes Honourable Abdul Majid and wishes him success in his mission as representative of the above countries and wishes Honourable Halim a healthy and happy retirement.

Honorable Abdul Majid has thirty-two years of experience in governance, management, administration and fiscal and financial management, economic reforms and poverty reduction strategy at the national and sub-national level, and public sector development. He has also served in the Federal, Sindh and NWFP Governments and held a diplomatic posting in the USA.

Jaseem is Appointed IFSB's New Secretary-General

Bangladesh national, Jaseem Ahmed, assumed his position as the Secretary-General of the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) on May 1, 2011 replacing Professor Datuk Rifaat Ahmed Abdel Karim.

Prior to his appointment to the IFSB, Ahmed served as the Director, Financial Sector, Public Management and Trade, Southeast Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He has a BA in Economics from the University of Sussex and holds two graduate degrees in Economics from Yale University.

On this occasion the CEO of ICIEC, Dr. Abdel Rahman El-Tayeb Taha, congratulates Jaseem Ahmed and wishes him success in his mission as Secretary-General of IFSB.



ICIEC Becomes Full Member of IFSB

Recently, ICIEC's membership in the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) has been upgraded from Observer Member to Full Member.

Being a full member of IFSB, ICIEC will be part of a prestigious international organization with the broadest representation in the Islamic financial services industry. ICIEC will now be able to attend the IFSB General Assembly and participate in the development of the IFSB prudential standards in both working groups and closed-door discussions.

Commenting on this achievement CEO of ICIEC, Dr. Taha said, "Benefiting from the Full Member status in IFSB, ICIEC is looking forward to making

fruitful contributions towards fulfilling the various challenging tasks undertaken by IFSB."



“

I trust that the support from ICIEC will continue to be a major driving force for the IFSB in fulfilling its challenging task.

”

Secretary General of IFSB

News in Brief

ICIEC attended the 3rd Annual East Africa Trade and Commodity Finance Conference organized by Exporta in Nairobi, Kenya on May 17, 2011. The participants discussed the trade and commodities opportunities and challenges in East African countries like Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, and Tanzania.

On May 11, 2011 ICIEC participated in the IDB Group Day and the launching of MCPS Indonesia held in Jakarta, Indonesia. The delegation of IDB Group was headed by H.E. the President of the IDB Group. ICIEC was represented by the Head of the Reinsurance Division, Mr Rahmatnor Muhammed, who also delivered a presentation to representatives of Indonesian private sectors and government agencies.

The delegation from the Export Credit Guarantee Agency of Oman (ECGA), comprising Head of Claims and Recoveries, Imaad Soud Al-Harthy and Senior Underwriting Officer, Ahmed bin Khalfan Al-Baloushi, visited ICIEC for a familiarization program.

Delegations from Sudan, consisting of representatives from Sheikan (ECA), National Agency for Insurance and Finance of Exports (NAIFE) and Export Development Bank, paid a visit to ICIEC. During the visit, the delegations discussed staff issues related to the new agreement pertaining to the promotion of livestock business from Sudan to Saudi Arabia.

ICIEC participated in the Arab Tourism Forum held in Sharm Elsheikh during April 19-20, 2011. The Forum was organized by the Arab Tourism Organization (ATO) under the auspices of the Arab League with the participation of several Arab tourism ministers. The Forum discussed several issues that are affecting Arab tourism in light of recent turmoil in the region, and called for an action plan to revive Arab tourism. During the event, the President of ATO, Dr. Bandar Bin Fahad al-Fahaid called upon investors to benefit from the services provided by the IDB Group, notably ICIEC's investment insurance services.

Appointments

H.E. Abdelhamid Triki has been appointed as Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and IDB Governor for the Republic of Tunisia.

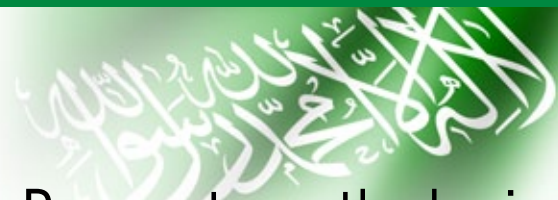
H.E. Magloire Ngambia, Minister of Economy, Trade, Industry and Tourism, has been appointed as IDB Governor for the Republic of Gabon.

H.E. Frank Emmanuel, ISSOZET, Minister of Budget, Public Accounts and Public Functions, and in charge of the State Reform has been appointed as IDB Alternative Governor for the Republic of Gabon.

H.E. Dr. Mohamad Khair Elzubair has been appointed as Governor for the Central Bank of Sudan and IDB Alternate Governor for the Republic of Sudan.

Mohamed Iqbal Karim, has been appointed as Field Representative of IDB in Bangladesh and has been selected to undergo familiarization/training at the IDB headquarters

Country Development



Saudi Arabia – Bright Economic Prospects on the horizon

The Saudi economy is in good shape thanks to a number of factors that helped register buoyant economic growth. The high oil prices and higher oil output resulting from the necessity to fill the production share of countries in political turmoil are the main factors that contributed to a fiscal surplus in the neighborhood of 10.1% of GDP in 2011. In addition, the authorities' good economic management has resulted in these positive results. By far, the fiscal support package of roughly SR500bn announced by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques this year will kick start the non-oil economy, and contribute to the high GDP growth of 6.5% estimated for 2011. Another high growth rate is projected for the coming year.

The high current account surplus (22% of GDP) will continue to sustain the external accounts, although the picking domestic demand will

eventually reduce this figure. Saudi Arabia is under-indebted by international standards with a debt/GDP ratio of less than 20%, and debt service ratio of just over 2%. The inflation rate is projected to remain subdued despite a peak in 2011. The Saudi Riyal has been fixed against the US Dollar in recent decades, and with foreign reserves of 34.5 months of import cover, the authorities will manage to defend it with ease. This is 11.5 times above the satisfactory level of comfort, which is three months of import cover.

Saudi Arabia has succeeded in sailing through the current political turmoil in the Middle East, partly because of the authorities' leadership and the solid monarchical structure, and partly because of the above-mentioned economic muscle. The government is dealing with the elevated level of unemployment seriously, and the positive economic prospects will dent it. There are strong

reasons to believe that these efforts will continue in the foreseeable future. Indeed, this will definitely augur well for the prospects of the Corporation as well as its Member Countries.



By Hussein Jama
Head Country Risk Analysis, ICIEC

An Economic Miracle in the Desert

IDB Group Executive Directors & Top Management Visit the King Abdullah Economic City



A delegation from the IDB Group, headed by President of the IDB Group, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Ali with members of the IDB/ICIEC Board of Directors and CEOs of ICIEC, ICD and ITFC visited King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC) in Rabigh on May 5, 2011. During the visit, in the presence of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Economic Cities Authority, the delegation received a briefing on the latest developments in the city by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Emaar Economic City.

KAEC is described as the largest economic project of the private sector in the Middle East, where the Emaar Economic City Company is developing six major parts of the city, a seaport and industrial valley, a central business district,

resorts, a residential area and an education complex. The city is located on the Red Sea coast, about 90 km north of Jeddah.

Once operational, the KAEC will be the first economic city of its kind to offer full standard government services and provide unrivalled business and trade access to nearly 250 million people in the MENA region.

“The KAEC will play a major role in giving a boost to the private sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.”
Dr. Abdel-Rahman Taha, the CEO of ICIEC



ITAP Participates in UNCTAD Event

ITAP participated in UNCTAD's 3rd Session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission held in Geneva during the period May 2-6, 2011. The Commission provided the opportunity for Member States and investment and development stakeholders to discuss key and rising issues and their development implications as well as policy solutions. The purpose of this Commission was to allow policymakers, investment promotion agencies and the private sector to exchange their experiences.

This year's Session addressed two main themes: Promoting Investment for Development: Best

Practices in Strengthening Investment in Basic Infrastructure in Developing Countries, and Enhancing Productive Capacities for Development, including strengthened entrepreneurship policies and improved science and innovation policies.

Several representatives from the IDB Member Countries, including, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Indonesia, Guinea, Morocco, Oman, Jordan and Nigeria, attended the Session as part of the Commission. The Session was considered an ideal setting to allow networking and sharing of ideas amongst countries and international organizations.



ITAP-UNCTAD Cooperation



ITAP and UNCTAD organized their 4th Capacity Building program for the officials of investment promotion agencies in the IDB Member Countries. The theme of this year's four-day program that was held in Casablanca, Morocco from March 22-25, 2011 and focused on: Investor-State Dispute and International Investment Rulemaking.

The program was attended by 29 participants representing 27 IDB Member Countries in addition to a participant from the IDB Regional Office, Rabat. The participants are practitioners of investment promotion and protection issues, legal advisers, policy-makers and senior officials.

The opening remarks by the IDB and UNCTAD highlighted the importance of their cooperation in delivering capacity building programs on investor-state disputes and International Investment Agreements (IIAs) to investment promotion officials from IDB Member Countries.

Participant Feedback



Ms. Tursun Aitbaeva
Vice-President
The Kyrgyz Investment Group

ITAP invited the Kyrgyz Investment Group to its 4th capacity building program with UNCTAD. The program discussed important issues related to international investment agreements and investor state disputes.

The program was an eye-opener on the fact that The settlement of disputes between investors and the countries in which they are established is a key aspect of investment protection under international investment agreements (IIAs).

According to UNCTAD, the investor-state dispute settlement activity during the last decade has generated a substantial number of cases touching upon key procedural and substantive aspects of investment law. Kyrgyzstan was not an exception as it has signed 27 Bilateral Investment Treaties (BIT) so far. Despite this, a number of investments in gas, mining and tourism sectors ended up in international courts for arbitration.

The conclusion produced by the IDB-UNCTAD workshop on investor state dispute and rule-making was to motivate participants from the IDB Member Countries to improve domestic administrative practices and laws in order to avoid future disputes.

ITAP Partner in Focus:

The National Agency of Investment Development

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria



The National Agency of Investment Development (ANDI) is the entity in charge of the foreign direct investment in Algeria. The country's first investment code was enacted in 1993, establishing the initial agency (APSI). This code was afterwards abrogated, giving birth to ANDI in 2001, along with the adoption of the new law on investments.

ANDI supports both national and foreign investors, facilitates administrative procedures, and grants tax exemptions, rebates and other incentives. A central structure dealing with foreign investments has been created within the Head Office of the Agency. ANDI has 19 One-Stop-Shops throughout the country and, in order to cover the

whole country, is planning to increase the number to 48 in the near future.

The ANDI's mission focuses on defining actions to highlight the comparative competitive advantages of the Algerian economy, designing mechanisms of support for the promotion of investment and the follow up of their effective execution, suggesting to the government all useful legal and economic measures to improve investment as well as reducing the formalities for the projects under way. www.adni.dz



Community News

The Chairman of IDB Group Visits ICIEC Offices

The Chairman of the IDB Group, H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali visited ICIEC offices on Saturday April 23, 2011 accompanied by the VP of Corporate Services of IDB, Ahmed Tik Tik and the Director of Administrative Services of IDB, Rahimi A. Rahimi. They were received by the CEO of ICIEC, Dr. Abdel Rahman Taha and Director of Human Resources and Corporate Services of ICIEC, Bassam Dawoud.

The purpose of the visit was to view the overall atmosphere in the Corporation's work and interact with staff members. The CEO of the Corporation expressed his delight at the opportunity to see the Chairman on ICIEC premises, who was pleased with the positive environment in the Corporation.

It is worth mentioning here that since Rahimi A. Rahimi moved from ICIEC to IDB under the Management Renewal Exercise of the IDB Reform, and assumed his position as the Director of Administrative Services Department of the IDB Group, he has been exerting a lot of efforts towards improving the facilities and services offered.



HR&CS Department Organizes ICIEC Gathering



The Human Resources and Management Corporate Services of the Corporation (HR&CS) organized a social gathering on May 12, 2011 at Green Island Restaurant, Jeddah. The gathering was attended by the ICIEC staff and the team of the BEST program of IDB. The gathering witnessed the presence of the Director of Administrative Services Department at IDB, Rahimi Ahmed Rahimi,.

During the function CEO of ICIEC, Dr. Abdel Rahman Taha gave a speech on the achievement of the Corporation during 1431H, which reflects on the performance exercise of the ICIEC staff. He also highlighted the quarterly year performance of the Corporation during the current year.

In appreciation for their participation, the CEO used the occasion to honor several staff members of the Corporation who contributed to the development of the Integrated Management System (IMS).

ICIEC Appoints New Operations Manager for Dubai Office

The CEO of ICIEC has appointed **Owais Diyan** as the Operations Manager at ICIEC's Representative Office in Dubai. Owais, an Indian National, is currently the Head of the Medium Term Insurance Division at ICIEC. He holds a Master's degree in Finance and Banking from Bombay University. Prior to joining ICIEC, Owais worked with Citibank's Investment Banking Division in the Financial Institutions Group.



In his capacity as the Operations Manager at the ICIEC Office in Dubai, Owais will be tasked with business development in the UAE as well as neighboring countries, and will serve as the focal point for ICIEC's relationships with financial institutions in the region. The ICIEC family wishes Owais best of luck in his new assignment.

ICIEC Headquarters

P.O.Box 15722 Jeddah 21454
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel.: (+966) 2 644 5666 - 646 7609 / 7597 / 7595 / 7589
Fax: (+966) 2 637 9755 - 644 3447
E-mail: iciec@isdb.org

ICIEC's Representative Office in Dubai

Al Kifaf Building, P.O.Box:114462
Etisalat Tower 2 - 26 floor, Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai, UAE
Tel: (+971) 4 3779444 - Fax: (+971) 4 3581101
Mob:(+971) 0566593131
E-mail: iciec@isdb.org, sarahsalem@isdb.org
Registered in DIFC No. 0511

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Abdel Rahman EI-Tayeb Taha
The Chief Executive Officer

Editor
Owais Diyan

Managing Editor
Jamel Eddine Naga

Promotion & International Relations Unit
jnaga@isdb.org