

DFM Listed Companies' Board Secretaries Undergo First Capacity

Building Workshop

Dubai 27 August 2017: Dubai Financial Market (DFM) and Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance (Hawkamah) hold the first board secretary accreditation workshop designed for DFM listed companies. Board secretaries play a vital role in good corporate governance and this practical course is designed to equip participants with knowledge and skills to enhance their effectiveness and provide them with up-to-date understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a board secretary in a DFM listed company.

This course forms a part of Hawkamah's and DFM's strategic partnership to further enhance the implementation of corporate governance within listed companies and strengthen the leading position of Dubai as a dynamic capital markets hub and center of excellence. Over the past years, DFM has played a pivotal role in promoting the increasing adherence of listed companies to corporate governance regulations. This proactive approach has been widely

welcomed by listed companies and significantly strengthened investors' confidence.

Commenting on the importance of this course, HE Essa Kazim, Chairman of Dubai Financial Market said: "Good corporate governance promotes market confidence, helps attract long-term capital and fosters market discipline through appropriate disclosure and transparency. We believe board secretaries have a significant role to play in upholding a company's governance practices and we seek to support and empower them in this regard."

HE Hamad Buamim, Chairman of Hawkamah said: "The responsibilities of board secretaries in regional companies have evolved significantly in recent years from an administrative to a more strategic role of considerable influence at the heart of governance operations within a company. This course underlines the importance of a good board secretary bridging the gap between the boardroom and the executive management and facilitating more effective decision making within an organization."

The course participants passing their exams will be awarded with a Certified Board Secretary certificate. The next course will be held in October 2017.

-Ends-

About Dubai Financial Market: Dubai Financial Market (DFM) was established as a public institution with its own independent corporate body. DFM operates as a secondary market for the trading of securities issued by public shareholding companies, bonds issued by the Federal Government or any of the local Governments and public institutions in the country, units of investment funds and any other financial instruments, local or foreign, which are accepted by the market. The DFM commenced operations on March 26, 2000 and became the first Islamic Shari'a-compliant exchange globally since 2007. Following its initial public offering in November 2006, when DFM offered 1.6 billion shares, representing 20 per cent of its paid-up capital of AED 8 Billion, DFM became a public joint stock company and its shares were listed on 7 March 2007 with the trading symbol (DFM). Following the IPO, the Government of Dubai retained the remaining 80 per cent of DFM Company through Borse Dubai Limited.

www.dfm.ae

About Hawkamah, The Institute for Corporate Governance: Hawkamah is a world-class corporate governance institute working to improve corporate governance practices of governments and companies across the MENA region. We help build sound organizations, reform corporate sector, assist banking and financial sector, and promote good governance. We assist companies to develop sound and globally recognized corporate governance frameworks. Hawkamah helps also in building qualified directors and top executives who are able to apply corporate governance in their organizations.

www.hawkamah.org