

## **DFSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Summary of Outcomes**

**20 April 2016**

The DFSA Board of Directors (Board) met in Dubai on 20 April 2016.

#### Overview of the Chairman

The Chairman gave his customary overview and, amongst other things, noted that the number of firms in the Centre authorised by the DFSA continues to grow steadily. India remains the largest geography, by value of assets managed in the Centre, closely followed by China.

The Chairman is planning a trip to Riyadh with the Chief Executive and Director of International Relations. The Chairman noted that a draft international engagement forward plan for 2016 and 2017 has been prepared, as well as a plan for local and regional engagements.

The Chairman mentioned that topical issues raised frequently included FinTech and the lifting of Iranian sanctions. The DFSA and its Legislative Committee are working on developing a Crowdfunding framework.

The Chairman noted that expenditure remains in line with budget for 2016.

The Chairman confirmed that the 2016 overseas Board meeting will be held in Beijing, China.

The Chairman noted that it is expected that one new Board Member will join this year, with a second possibly joining in 2017 and that this is being dealt with by the Governance and Nominations Committee.

#### Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive reported on key policy matters as well as general regulatory and internal DFSA matters.

He mentioned a productive meeting with H.E. Dr Obaid Al Zaabi, the Acting CEO of the Securities and Commodities Authority (SCA). The Chief Executive reiterated the good working relationship between the DFSA and both the SCA and the UAE Central Bank.

The Chief Executive mentioned that the pipeline of firms applying to the DIFC is still strong and he gave an update regarding some large firms.

The Chief Executive reported that DFSA delegates recently attended the Standard Chartered Bank Core Supervisory College and Crisis Management Group held in Hong Kong.

The Chief Executive also mentioned that the Listing Authority has received six transactions for review, including applications from sovereign and supranational issuers.

The General Counsel provided Members with an update on current legal matters including jurisdiction.

Board Members also discussed the DFSA's approach to the issue of financial penalties and compared this with the approach in other jurisdictions.

### Crowdfunding

The Head of Strategy and Policy provided a presentation on a range of topics for the potential regulation of Crowdfunding. He extended his thanks to Members for providing input and suggesting additional issues to consider.

Members agreed that in developing a Crowdfunding regulatory framework the DFSA should not be constrained by what other regulators have done and should seize the opportunity to be innovative if appropriate. They noted that it is important to get the right balance between developing a framework which would allow Crowdfunding to thrive, whilst ensuring the right level of regulation to protect investors.

### Jurisdiction

The General Counsel presented an overview of jurisdictional issues relating to doing business in or from the DIFC. She presented a proposed strategy to Members for resolving these issues.

### Committee Activity

The Audit Committee did not meet, but reported that agreed adjustments have been included in the 2016 Internal Audit Plan.

The Legislative Committee did not meet, but reported that the June Legislative Committee Meeting will have a very full agenda.

The Risk Committee, the Governance and Nominations Committee, the Remuneration Committee, and the Nationals and TRL Working Group did not meet during this meeting cycle.

### Strategy Day

The Chairman extended his thanks and appreciation to the Members for their attendance and participation at the meetings to discuss strategy which had taken place throughout the previous day as well as prior to the Board Meeting. The feedback on the meetings was very positive. It was noted that it had been a very full agenda covering several substantial and weighty issues



giving rise to considered and detailed discussion on strategic policy issues. Several Members commented on the high quality of the papers and presentations produced for the meetings.

*The next meeting of the Board will be in Dubai on 14 June 2016.*