

TAKAUD AND MUBASHER PARTNER TO MAKE TAKAUD INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AVAILABLE ON LINE

Manama, 2nd May, 2017 – TAKAUD, the specialist provider of savings, investment and pension solutions for the MENA region, is pleased to announce its partnership with Mubasher Financial Services B.S.C.(c). Under the terms of an Agreement signed recently at TAKAUD's Manama offices, Mubasher will make TAKAUD's conventional and Sharia compliant Conservative and other Investment Strategies available to Mubasher clients online, through Mubasher's award-winning trading platform.

Mubasher's technology will now enable broad public access to TAKAUD's carefully constructed strategies, under the Mubasher name. In 2016, all of TAKAUD's own investment strategies showed growth, with the Global Growth Investment Strategy achieving a market-leading gain of 11.58%. The Mubasher Investment Strategies are based on the same sound investment principles.

In addition, Mubasher intends to offer mutual funds to their customers upon obtaining the relevant regulatory approvals. TAKAUD will share its investment expertise to identify a range of high quality mutual funds to be offered.

"TAKAUD is delighted to work with Mubasher to make our investment solutions more readily available," said Mr. Samer Khanachet, Chairman of TAKAUD. "The range of investment solutions has been crafted to match the diverse investment needs of Mubasher clients. I am convinced that they will be a popular addition to Mubasher's already expansive investment offering."

Mubasher Chairman, Eng. Mohamed Al-Ballaa said, "This partnership meets our objective of providing a comprehensive range of investment options for Mubasher clients. We remain committed to continually enhancing our platform; the partnership with TAKAUD enables us to achieve this."

Mubasher intends to provide the following, subject to the necessary approvals:

- **Conservative Investment Strategies**
 - Short-term investments with high rates of return, providing accessibility at short notice.
 - Designed for clients looking for a competitive return on their money between trades.
- **Global, Regional and Sharia-Compliant Investment Strategies**
 - 9 strategies developed to meet the needs of prudent, balanced and growth-oriented investors.
 - For the infrequent trader, the Investment Strategies provide a managed investment solution comprising a diversified range of mutual funds that are continually monitored and reviewed.
 - Designed to appeal to investors who do not have the time to regularly oversee their holdings.
- **Core Funds**
 - A range of carefully screened mutual funds covering different asset classes and sectors.
 - Will appeal to investors looking for diversified exposure to certain markets or who wish to take advantage of market trends.

The offering will be rolled out over the coming months.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About Takaud Savings and Pensions B.S.C (c)

TAKAUD Savings and Pensions B.S.C. (c) is licensed as an Investment Business Firm (Category 1) by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) and is a closed joint stock company incorporated in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

TAKAUD provides long term savings, investment and pension solutions to individuals and corporations in the local and expatriate communities across the MENA region.

TAKAUD is 50% owned by Kuwait Projects Company (Holding) K.S.C. (c) (KIPCO) and 50% by United Gulf Bank, a member of the KIPCO Group.

The KIPCO Group is one of the biggest holding companies in the Middle East and North Africa, with consolidated assets of US\$ 32.7 billion as at 31 December 2016. The Group has significant ownership interests in over 60 companies operating across 24 countries. The group's main business sectors are financial services, media, real estate and manufacturing. Through its core companies, subsidiaries and affiliates, KIPCO also has interests in the education and medical sectors.

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About Mubasher Financial Services BSC

Mubasher Financial Services is a full-service brokerage firm offering the widest market coverage and depth of products across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). With the region's most sophisticated trading and research platform built from the ground up to serve MENA market conditions, Mubasher provides fast, reliable, and competitively priced brokerage services to regional and international buy- and sell side institutional clients, and professional traders. The Company's powerful and robust platform affords direct access to information, analysis and markets via world-class technology, an experienced 24/6 trading desk and a research team of seasoned professionals covering more than 195 companies in MENA. With technology and innovation at the core, Mubasher was the first brokerage to introduce a single-counterparty system in MENA, and is one of the only brokerages to offer single-platform access across MENA markets. Mubasher Financial Services has an established track record of more than a decade of service to regional banks, brokerages and buy-side institutions and professional traders, and a client roster that includes some of the largest international and regional family offices, investment banks, insurance companies and other institutional and high-net-worth investors, Licensed as a Category I Investment Company by the Central Bank of Bahrain, Mubasher Financial Services is authorized to conduct financial and investment services in securities brokerage and trading, advisory and asset management.

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