## Hawkamah/Mudara and ICSA Inks Partnership to Advance Board Secretary Role



Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance (Hawkamah), its sister institute Mudara, Institute of Directors (Mudara) and the Institute for Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) have announced a regional partnership to advance the profession of board secretaries in the Middle East and North Africa region through the development of jointly organized workshops, surveys, and outreach activities.

Dr. Nasser Saidi, Executive Director of Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance said: "Board secretaries play a crucial role in advancing corporate governance practices in the board room level as they provide advice and support to boards according to international best practices. Yet, Hawkamah's surveys have shown that in our region, Board secretaries' role have traditionally been limited. This exciting regional partnership with ICSA and the ICSA Gulf Forum, ICSA's regional

platform, present an opportunity to evolve current regional practices and advance the profession to fill the important role board secretaries play in corporate governance implementation."

"We are delighted that ICSA was able to join us at the Power Breakfast hosted by Mudara, Institute of Directors. ICSA's leadership role on board effectiveness and evaluation in the UK provides a great opportunity for the region to learn more about the essentials of board effectiveness and how board assessments could add value pushing for better corporate governance practices," Dr. Saidi added.

Seamus Gillen, Director of Policy at ICSA said 'We very much look forward to working with Hawkamah and the Mudara Institute of Directors on this important initiative. Our objective will be to help boards in the region deliver good leadership, make well-informed and high quality decisions and encourage them to carry out regular board evaluations. In doing so, we can drive up corporate governance standards in the region and help prevent future cases of corporate collapse'