



EDBS/KH/246/2013
26 December 2013

The Chief Executive Officer
All Islamic Banks
Manama
Kingdom of Bahrain

Dear Sir,

Obtaining a Rating

The purpose of this circular is to encourage all Islamic banks to solicit and obtain a credit rating. In particular, all Islamic banks are encouraged to engage with the Islamic International Rating Agency (the IIRA) with a view to obtaining a rating at the earliest possible date.

As the sole rating agency which provides Islamic banks with a rating that encompasses the full spectrum of capital instruments embedded within Islamic financial products, the IIRA is uniquely placed to provide a tailored service which is focused on the specific features of Islamic financial institutions. The CBB and the Islamic Development Bank have both formally recognised the IIRA as an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI), and the utilisation of the services which the IIRA provides is considered to be an essential ingredient in the development of the Islamic finance industry.

The future expansion of Islamic Finance is dependent upon the industry stakeholders developing stronger and closer bonds. Obtaining a rating from the IIRA will facilitate that process, and the CBB urges all Islamic banks to avail themselves of the expertise the IIRA provides.

The CBB looks forward to your action on the above.

Yours faithfully


Khalid Hamad