

# WIRTSCHAFTSFORUM NAH- UND MITTELOST®

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## Contents

German Delegation visits Iran	1
Editorial	3
Personalities	3
Financing and legal frameworks in the Near and Middle East demand specialised knowledge	4
Pakistan's Prime Minister H.E. Nawaz Sharif visits Berlin to enhance Pakistani-German relations	6
Qatar and UAE among top infrastructure markets worldwide	8
Herrenknecht AG selected to drill under Suez Canal	8
Abu Dhabi's planned solar project arouses the interest of German companies	9
Morocco to become driver for economic integration in Maghreb region	10
New legislation to facilitate market entry in Saudi Arabia's infrastructure sector	11
Developing a mutually beneficial partnership: Interview with Ambassador of Algeria to Germany H.E. Nor-Eddine Aouam	12
Turkish companies enjoy successful market growth in MENA region	17
Finance the key to Dubai's economic vision	20
4 <sup>th</sup> session of the German-Kuwaiti Joint Economic Commission	21
Jordan aims to diversify its energy supply	22
13 <sup>th</sup> Omani-German Joint Economic Commission held in Berlin	22
News & Projects	24
Fair News	27
Exchange rates	27
GCC and wider region prioritises agriculture and food security	28
Saudi Build 2014	29
Business page	30
Business enquiries	30
NUMOV Services	32
Application form for membership	32
Top MEP contractors and projects in the Middle East region	33
Imprint	34
Board of NUMOV	34

## German Delegation visits Iran:

### Fostering ties and preparing the ground for post-sanctions economic relations with Iran

by Sofia Karimi



Tehran, the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran

On December 6<sup>th</sup> 2014, a large German delegation of high-ranking business representatives from a wide range of economic sectors embarked on a four-day visit to Iran organised by NUMOV, the German Near and Middle Association. The delegation was headed by **Burkhard Dahmen**, Deputy Chairman of NUMOV and Spokesman of the Management Board of SMS Holding GmbH, as well as NUMOV CEO and Deputy Chairperson Helene Rang. The trip was planned after an invitation to visit Iran was kindly extended to NUMOV and its member companies by **H.E. Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh**, Minister of Industry, Mines and Trade of the Islamic Republic of Iran during his visit to Berlin for the Iranian German Business Conference in April 2014, which was extensively covered in our May/June 2014 issue. **H.E. Ali**

**Madjedi**, the new Iranian Ambassador in Berlin, kindly offered his most valued support during the planning phase of the visit and graced the delegation with his presence throughout its stay in Tehran. As the largest German business delegation to have been welcomed to Iran in the past years, NUMOV and its Iranian counterparts succeeded in holding many high level meetings with both the private as well as public sectors, thus laying the ground for post-sanctions economic cooperation with Iran while demonstrating that German companies – and especially NUMOV members – remain committed to their long term business ties in Iran during the difficult business climate created by the economic sanctions against the country. The delegation was greeted in Tehran with traditional Iranian hospitality and the positive high-profile media coverage of the

continued on page 14

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