

# WIRTSCHAFTS FORUM

## NAH- UND MITTELOST®

No. 3 – May / June 2006  
C 46321

### Contents

The Middle East is of central importance for Germany and Europe	1
Editorial	3
Personalities	3
Gerhard Schröder and the Near and Middle East	8
In memory of Ben Wisch	12
Water and wastewater in the Middle East	13
Young Arab Leaders in Hamburg	16
Iran: Record Number of International Exhibitors at Iran Oil and Gas Show 2006	17
Iran: German companies are welcomed to participate in tenders	18
Saudi Arabia: SAGIA approved 619 investment projects in 2005	20
The Gulf In-Depth	22
Saudi Arabia: SAGIA to attract German investment in four sectors	22
“Hamburger Tulpe” Award	22
News & Projects	23
Near and Middle East Economic Handbook 2006	26
“Arabisch verstehen lernen”	26
Dialogue of cultures	27
U.A.E.: Opening of the direct flight connection between Dubai and Hamburg	27
Introducing new members of the board of the German Near and Middle East Association	27
New bfai publications in March 2006	27
Briefly noticed	28
Exchange rates	28
Business page	30
Business enquiries	30
NUMOV Services	32
Application form for members	32
Introducing a NUMOV member: N.A.B.U.I. Sarl	33
Imprint	34
Board	34
Services for NUMOV members	34

### NUMOV's Honorary Chairman Dr. Gerhard Schröder:

## The Middle East is of central importance for Germany and Europe

*Dr. Gerhard Schröder, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, spoke with Martin Bay, Chairman of the Board of NUMOV and Chairman of the Board of Managing Directors of DB Projekt-Bau Deutsche Bahn Group*



*Dr. Gerhard Schröder, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Honorary Chairman of NUMOV, Nah- und Mittelost-Verein, German Near and Middle East Association*

*M.B.: In your political life, you always showed personal interest for the Middle East. What was the main reason for your focus of attention to this region of the world?*

**Dr. Gerhard Schröder:** The Middle East is of central importance for Germany and

*continued on page 4*

**NUMOV**

NAH- UND MITTELOST-VEREIN F.V.  
GERMAN NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST ASSOCIATION

Jägerstr. 63 a, D-10117 Berlin  
Phone: 0049 (0)30 - 206410-0  
Fax.: 0049 (0)30 - 206410-10  
Große Theaterstr. 1, 20354 Hamburg  
Email: numov@numov.de  
Internet: www.numov.de