

Islamic finance looks to Europe

Mark Summers Business Reporter

The importance of the rapidly growing Islamic finance industry has been underlined with the announcement that the next meeting of an international forum on the sector will be held in Zurich – in a bid to strengthen the emerging European arm of the industry.

An statement before the conclusion of the 10th International Islamic Finance Forum (IIFF) in Singapore revealed that Zurich will play host to the launch of a meeting dubbed 'IIFF Europe' to be held on November 13-16 this year.

Bahrain has laid claim to being the regional hub of Islamic finance for the Middle East for some time, and has been joined as a pioneer in the fledgling industry by Malaysia and Singapore. In recent months more and more countries have expressed and interest in the field with the UK, South Africa and Japan among the most recent converts.

Organisers of ITFF said that the European forum will feature a schedule of events customised to feature issues especially relevant to the European Islamic Finance Industry.

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