

## 20 04 2009 Vi piacciono le emozioni forti: investite sulla nuova Borsa valori dell'Iraq

La borsa valori irachena diventa elettronica. Da domenica 5 titoli principali vengono trattati con le modalità abituali per le Borse occidentali e gli altri 86 titoli, trattati ancora tramite brokers dal 2004, transiteranno progressivamente on-line entro la fine dell'anno.

Questo potrebbe far decollare la percentuale, per adesso molto bassa, di investimenti esteri sulla Borsa asiatica, che si presenta, in teoria, molto promettente, considerando che la Banca Centrale ha appena tagliato i tassi al 9%, quindi meno del Brasile:

### **Iraq kicked off on Sunday its electronic trading system which is expected to boost foreign investment to the nation's burgeoning but cash-strapped economy.**

A total of 91 companies are already listed on the Iraq Stock Exchange (ISX), which since its launch in 2004 has been operated by brokers crowding around large erasable boards.

Under the electronic system traders use 46-inch LCD television screens to watch stock movements to buy and sell.

On Sunday three banks and two Baghdad hotels had their shares bought and sold, with transactions clearing almost instantly, rather than taking the traditional two days.

The other 86 companies listed on the ISX will gradually switch by the end of the year, according to US daily US Today.

Foreign investors accounted for about \$21.5m of trading last year, or eight percent of the ISX's volume, said Abdul Razaq Al Saadi, chairman of the Iraq Securities Commission, who was confident that foreign and local investment would grow as it became easier to access the market.

"This is an important step to opening ourselves up to foreign investment," added Taha Ahmed Abdul Salam, chief executive of the exchange.

"We are starting to create the transparency and systems that will make Iraq attractive to investors outside of Iraq," he told the newspaper.

However traders on Iraq's fledgling stock exchange, which traded \$270m last year, were more cautious about the electronic system.

"It's supposed to be faster and easier, but for today I'm just watching and waiting," said Moysen Al Amali, a trader on the floor of the exchange.