

cent of the equity in such companies if they are in the private sector.

Publications

It is highly recommended that businesses keep current with activities in the entire Middle East. The best weekly magazine covering economic, political and commercial developments (including tender notices) in The Gulf States is the *Middle East Economic Digest* published by the Middle East Economic Digest Ltd. (MEED House, 21 John Street, London, WC1N 2BP, England).

Information on other publications can be obtained from the Canadian Embassy in Baghdad.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Iraq has a Chamber of Commerce and Industry with which all local companies must be registered. In addition to being a powerful lobby for private-sector interests, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry promotes foreign trade by publishing information on local market opportunities and regulations, receiving trade missions from abroad, arbitrating commercial disputes when requested to do so and generally being helpful to foreign business persons.

The Canada-Arab Business Council

The Canada-Arab Business Council is a private-sector association of Canadian companies actively trading with the countries of the Arab world. Its purpose is to promote and enhance Canada's commercial ties with these countries. The Council serves in an advisory capacity to Canadian federal, provincial and territorial governments on matters relating to Canada-Arab trade and strives to create a greater awareness in the Arab countries of Canadian business and export capabilities. Its Canadian-based activities include the organization of regular meetings among Council members, liaison with Canadian government officials and trade officials of the Arab governments represented in Canada, the holding of business-oriented seminars and the publication of a regular newsletter containing information on trade with and commercial developments in the Arab world.