



BUREAU VAN DIJK

# Monthly M&A Activity Report

MENA, July 2016

zephyr

m&a research  
catalyst

## The following report details mergers and acquisitions activity in the Middle East and North Africa in July 2016 using data from the Zephyr database.

It focuses on deal activity by target company.

Click [here](#) to access the raw data in an Excel spreadsheet.

### M&A value skyrockets in July

The value of mergers and acquisitions (M&A) targeting companies based in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) increased significantly in July, despite volume halving month-on-month. In total there were 24 deals worth a combined USD 16,384 million announced in the four weeks under review, compared to 46 deals worth USD 1,171 million in June.

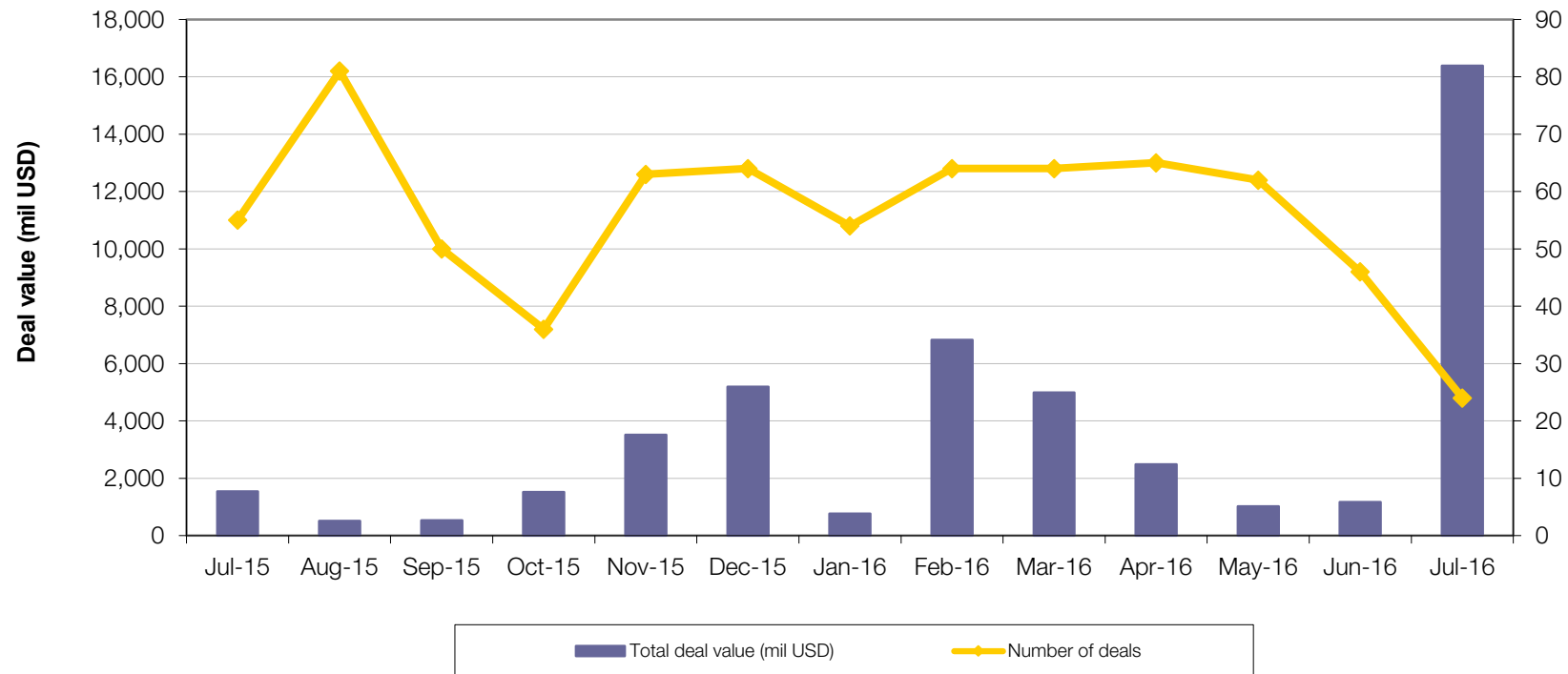
A similar improvement was seen year-on-year as 55 deals worth USD 1,535 million were signed off in July 2015.

The significant increase by value against the decrease in volume suggests higher individual deal valuations during the period under review. This is borne out by the fact that two deals broke the USD 1,000 million barrier and the largest transaction was worth in excess of USD 14,000 million in July.

### Deals by volume and value

Announced date	No of deals	Total deal value (mil USD)
Jul-16	24	16,384
Jun-16	46	1,171
May-16	62	1,025
Apr-16	65	2,489
Mar-16	64	4,984
Feb-16	64	6,822
Jan-16	54	767
Dec-15	64	5,193
Nov-15	63	3,517
Oct-15	36	1,519
Sep-15	50	531
Aug-15	81	512
Jul-15	55	1,535

## Deals by volume and value



## First Gulf Bank targeted in month's largest transaction

The largest deal announced in July was worth USD 14,841 million and involved the National Bank of Abu Dhabi acquiring United Arab Emirates (UAE)-based lender First Gulf Bank in a deal constituting a reverse takeover. National Bank plans to issue 5,643 billion shares, or a 52 per cent stake, as consideration. The transaction is expected to complete in the first quarter of 2017.

This deal accounted for 91 per cent of total M&A value for July (USD 16,384 million), making the month the largest by aggregate deal value since December 2007 (USD 21,496 million).

Yellow Spirit and Societe Lawhat Tunisie joined forces to acquire a 66 per cent stake in Maghreb International Publicite, a Tunisian outdoor advertising service provider, for USD 1,312 million in the second most valuable deal announced during the four weeks.

Of the 24 deals signed off in July, seven targeted companies based in Egypt, while Jordan and the UAE also significantly featured during the month, having been targeted in six deals each.

## UAE is most valuable country in July

The UAE received the most investment of all countries in the MENA region in July, having been targeted in deals worth USD 14,873 million; however, it is worth noting that almost this entire amount can be attributed to National Bank's USD 14,841 million acquisition of First Gulf Bank.

Tunisia placed second by value with USD 1,312 million, which again can be attributed to a single deal in July.

Saudi Arabia and Egypt also increased by value month-on-month, having been targeted in deals worth a combined USD 103 million and USD 58 million, respectively, (June: USD 27 million; USD 3 million). However, this came at the expense of Iran, Kuwait and Jordan which declined over the same timeframe.

In terms of value Egypt was the most frequently targeted with 7 deals, followed by the UAE and Jordan, which were each targeted in 6 deals, and Iran (2 deals). Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia were targeted in 1 deal each.

## Deals with MENA targets announced in May

	Deal value (mil USD)	Deal type	Target	Target country	Acquiror	Acquiror country	Deal status
1.	14,841	Acquisition 100%	First Gulf Bank PJSC	AE	National Bank of Abu Dhabi	AE	Announced
2.	1,312	Acquisition 66%	Maghreb International Publicite	TN	Yellow Spirit SAL (Holding); Societe Lawhat Tunisie	LB; TN	Pending
3.	103	Minority stake	Undisclosed company	SA	Advanced Petrochemical Company	SA	Completed
4.	34	Minority stake	B Tech Company for Trade and Distribution SAE	EG	African Development Partners II LP	GB	Announced
5.	30	Acquisition 100%	Bonar Emirates Technical Yarns LLC; Low & Bonar plc's Sport & Leisure Business unit assets	AE	Mattex Dubai LLC	AE	Announced
6.	30	Capital Increase	Saba Nour Mining and Industrial Development Company PSC	IR			Completed
7.	16	Minority stake increased from 20% to 24%	Alborg Laboratories SAE	EG	Boubyan Petrochemical Company KSCC	KW	Completed
8.	7	Minority stake increased from 14% to 33%	Remco for Touristic Villages Construction SAE	EG	Mr Ayoub Adly Ayoub Ghattas	EG	Completed
9.	6	Minority stake 23%	Al-Kuwait Al-Ahlia School	KW	Housing Finance Company SAKC	KW	Completed
10.	1	Capital Increase	Yumamia Inc.	EG	Publicis Groupe SA	FR	Completed
11.	1	Capital Increase	Pixelbug Advertising Agency LLC	AE	Publicis Groupe SA	FR	Completed
12.	1	Capital Increase	El Grocer	AE	Publicis Groupe SA	FR	Completed
13.	1	Capital Increase	Carpool Arabia FZ-LLC	AE	Publicis Groupe SA	FR	Completed
14.	0	Minority stake 3%	Al-Amal Financial Investments Company Plc	JO	Mr Ali Hussein Ali Al Sada	QA	Completed
15.	0	Minority stake 3%	Al-Amal Financial Investments Company Plc	JO			Completed
16.	0	Minority stake 3%	Al-Amal Financial Investments Company Plc	JO	Mr Ali Hussein Ali Al Sada	QA	Completed
17.	0	Minority stake 2%	Al-Amal Financial Investments Company Plc	JO			Completed
18.	0	Minority stake increased from 16% to 18%	Model Restaurants Company plc	JO	Mr Amir Khader Jameel Al-Kawthar	JO	Completed
19.	0	Minority stake increased from 13% to 16%	Model Restaurants Company plc	JO	Mr Amir Khader Jameel Al-Kawthar	JO	Completed
20.	0	Minority stake increased from 45% to 49%	United Group for Production of Medical Necessities SAE	EG	International Company for Medical Industries SAE	EG	Completed



## Target countries by volume

Target sector	Jul-15	Jun-16	Jul-16
Egypt	9	7	7
UAE	2	6	6
Jordan	19	11	6
Iran	1	4	2
Kuwait	11	4	1
Saudi Arabia	4	4	1
Tunisia	3	0	1
Oman	0	2	0
Qatar	1	2	0
Palestine	0	0	0
Libya	0	0	0
Morocco	5	5	0
Bahrain	0	0	0
Algeria	0	0	0
Iraq	0	1	0
Lebanon	0	0	0
Syria	0	0	0
Yemen	0	0	0

## Target countries by value

Target sector	Jul-15 (mil USD)	Jun-16 (mil USD)	Jul-16 (mil USD)
UAE	54	118	14,873
Tunisia	446	0	1,312
Saudi Arabia	135	27	103
Egypt	239	3	58
Iran	0	728	30
Kuwait	107	13	6
Jordan	528	7	2
Oman	0	0	0
Palestine	0	0	0
Qatar	1	0	0
Libya	0	0	0
Morocco	24	274	0
Bahrain	0	0	0
Algeria	0	0	0
Iraq	0	1	0
Lebanon	0	0	0
Syria	0	0	0
Yemen	0	0	0

## Notes to editors

Activity is based on the activity of the target company.

Deal status is announced within the time period.

The sector breakdown uses targets' activities as defined to be 'Major Sectors' by Zephyr.

The MENA region covers target companies in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen.

The date range is 01/07/2016 - 25/07/2016 inclusive.