

PRESS RELEASE

ARAB INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM MOVES AHEAD IN 2013 WITH NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dubai, UAE - January 23, 2013

Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF), a non profit development organisation established in 2001 and recognised by its regional and global purpose and activities as a powerful advocate for economic and gender equality, today proudly announces the appointment of new directors to its Board. The new Board, now 22 women and men high impact leaders coming from the upper echelons of business, finance, international institutions, academia, government, chambers of trade, public life and civil society, held its first Board meeting in Dubai, UAE on 9 December 2012.

Mrs Haifa Al Kaylani

Founder Chairman, Arab International Women's Forum

Mr Saad Abdul Latif

CEO, Asia, Middle East and Africa Division (AMEA), PepsiCo

Mrs Raja Al Gurg

Managing Director, Easa Saleh Al Gurg Group

Dr Shaikha Al Maskari

Chairperson, Al Maskari Holding, Chairperson, Tricon Group

Dr Afnan Al-Shuaiby

Secretary General & CEO, Arab British Chamber of Commerce

Ms Mona Al Moayyed

Managing Director, Y.K. Al Moayyed & Sons

Mr David Arkless

President, Global Corporate & Government Affairs, ManpowerGroup

Ms Sana Bardawil

Communications Director, Shell EP International Ltd

Mrs Nadereh Chamliou

Senior Advisor to the Chief Economist for the MENA Region, The World Bank

Ms Chiara Corazza

Managing Director, Greater Paris Management Agency

Ms Roxanne Decyk

Non Executive Director, Petrofac

Ms Haruko Fukuda, OBE

Non Executive Director, Investec PLC

Mr Warwick Hunt

Managing Partner, Middle East Region, PwC LLP

Ms Sung-Joo Kim

Chairperson & CEO, MCM Holding AG / Sungjoo Group

Ms Raghda Kurdi

Vice President, Hayat Pharmaceutical Industries

Ms Mei Sim Lai OBE DL

Principal, LaiPeters & Co

Mr Guy Lallemand

Regional President Africa & Middle East, Pfizer Inc

Professor Jean Pierre Lehmann

Founding Director, Evian Group

Mr Robert Lyle

Director, Commonwealth Disaster, Management Agency (CDMA)

Mrs Sylvia Perry

Finance Director, Arab International Women's Forum

Mrs Hanan Akram Saab

Founder, Co-Owner and Managing Director, Pharmamed

Ms Niki Tzavela

Member of the European Parliament

The new Directors, ensuring the full representation of Arab countries and international countries on the Board, bring to AIWF a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise that will strengthen the governance, direction and vision of this unique organisation, as it builds upon the success of its mission and supporting strategies for *Building Bridges, Building Business* within its initial eleven years. AIWF has been an agent of change for women in the Arab region and set a high bench mark through its emphasis on and activity for skills and capacity building, training, economic competitiveness, sustainable human development and the empowerment of women to contribute to leading roles in the political, economic and social life of their countries.

Commenting on these appointments, Mrs Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Founder Chairman Arab International Women's Forum said "*The AIWF membership comes from all different cultures, geographic and business interests, so the Board appointments ensure that the diversity of its support is reflected in its governing body, a fact confirmed by the inclusion of men for the first time. Furthermore, AIWF is delighted to welcome to the Board, the outstanding qualities of the directors, all having personal achievement in their own fields and an impressive track record for creating projects for education and leadership both in their business and the community which they serve.*

AIWF will be enriched by each making a significant contribution in taking forward the AIWF current programme, with its focus on the development of young Arab women leaders and job creators. Collectively, the Board will be a tour de force, playing a pivotal role, in 2013 and beyond, in enhancing and expanding the AIWF influence with governments, regional development groups and the Arab private sector to establish and support investment in the region's most valuable resource, its people and in particular shaping a framework of a viable business climate within which women and young people of both genders receive an equal voice and access to opportunities".

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EDITOR'S NOTES

About the Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF):

The **Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF)** is a non-profit organisation that has members and contacts in more than 45 countries and links Arab business leaders with each other and their counterparts in the international community to exchange knowledge, experience and develop their business potential. AIWF has been an agent for change for women in the Arab region encouraging their potential and has received international recognition in the Arab world and internationally as a powerful advocate for women in business and their empowerment. International conferences have been held in London, Dubai, Paris, Damascus, Washington DC, Madrid, Brussels, Sharjah, Cairo, Amman and Beirut examining strategies for job creation, inclusive sustainable growth, economic competitiveness, development of human capital, increased innovation and collaboration through public-private partnership. Please visit www.aiwfonline.com for media resources and past papers.

For further information