DCDF2021
منتدى التعاون الرقمي والتنمية
Digital Cooperation and Development Forum
Shaping our digital future | رسم مستقبلنا الرقمي

Date: Tuesday 21 December, 14:00 - 15:15 pm

Moderator

Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny | Chief of ICT Policies, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, UNESCWA

Ayman El-Sherbiny has more than 30 years of experience in the Telecom and IT domain; a senior International Development Strategist in the United Nations, and a former senior executive in a number of major multinational Technlogy companies, as well as in the Telecom and Internet Sector in Egypt and the Arab Region during the nineties till 2002. By the mid-nineties, he became a serial entrepreneur. He co-founded and led, as President & CEO, several renowned ICT companies, including establishing two of the five licensed Internet Operators, and acquired more than 40% of internet market share in a record time, in addition to one of the leading systems integrators and one of the pioneering e-commerce companies as well as the first WAP partner to the main GSM operator by then. In 1999, he participated in co-drafting the first Telecom Law of Egypt that triggered the liberalization of the sector, instigated the National TRA of Egypt, and fueled competition in the sector. By late 2002, he joined the United Nations, and participated in establishing the ICT Division of ESCWA, spearheading Arab efforts pertaining to the WSIS in 2003 and 2005. By 2011, and till now, he assumed the leadership role for information society, digital economy and digital development as the Chief of Information and Communication Technology Policies at the UN – ESCWA. During 18 years of tenure in the UN, he authored tens of publications on the Information Society issues including on Advancing ICT Infrastructure, Broadband for Development, Internet Governance, Competitiveness of the ICT Sector, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Investment and Venture Capital in ICTs, e-Government Strategy, and on Digital Economy; and has co-founded the Arab Internet Governance Forum (AIGF) and the Arab High-Level Forum on WSIS and 2030 Agenda.

He led several international and regional initiatives including Arabic Names across several geographical groups. He is a regular speaker at international conferences on digital oriented issues. His current work focuses on global and regional Digital Cooperation and Development, Fintech and e-Commerce post-COVID-19; and on the establishment of a Unified Arab Digital Agenda and Strategy for the Arab region jointly with League of Arab States, and on National Digital Development Reviews and Agendas for a number of Arab countries, with close nexus to the SDGs and to the 2030 Agenda.

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Khaled Hanafy | Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chambers and Professor of Economics and International Business

Khaled Hanafy is the Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chambers and Professor of Economics and International Business. He held several Governmental, academic, business and consultancy positions, most recently Minister of Supply and Internal Trade in Egypt, Chairman of Internal Trade Development Authority and Dean of College of International Transport & Logistics, in the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport. He was awarded "The Best Minister" for two consecutive years according to top surveys, in recognition of developing a New Food Subsidy System serving more than 70 million Egyptians.

Dr Hanafy had a remarkable contribution in developing the Egyptian internal trade, through launching a number on initiatives that were reflected in developing internal trade and in making it more efficient. These initiatives include: "Egypt's Food Industries," "Consumer Complexes E-Linking Project," "Gameeti Project," "Internal Trade and Logistics Zones" and "Upgrade the Egyptian Storage Capacity."

Dr Hanafy was the Chief Editor of the Economic constitution of Egypt. He was Chairman and board member of several holding companies in the private and governmental sectors. He participated in and headed a number of consultancy projects for the Arab League, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations, the International Labor Organization, and the European Union. He was also an Economic Advisor for the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce and provided consultancy services to several national & multinational organizations.

He holds an MSc degree in Regional Development and a PhD degree in International Trade. He also holds many diplomas in International Trade, & Business Administration from top American universities. On the academic level, Dr Hanafy - is a Professor of Economics and International Business and has a wealth of profound publications.

Speakers

Ms. Anne-Katrin Pfister | Programme Management Officer, E-Commerce and Digital Economy, UNCTAD

Pfister works at the E-Commerce and Digital Economy Branch of UNCTAD. In this capacity she oversaw the eTrade Readiness Assessments of Jordan and Tunisia. Prior to this assignment she was working for the International Trade Centre, the World Bank Group, and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development advising governments on issues related to trade and private sector development, trade in services, investment, and e-commerce. She holds a Master of Science in International Public Policy from UCL.

Mr. Rabeh Morrar | Director of Research, The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS)

Rabeh Morrar received his Ph.D. degree in Innovation Economy from Lille 1 University for Science and Technology, Lille, France in 2011. He joined the Department of Economic, An-Najah National University, Palestine, as an assistant professor in Economics and in 2011 became the head of Economic Department until 2015. In 2019, he finished a postdoctoral degree in development economy from Northumbria University, UK. His current research interests include Knowledge Economy, Innovation Economy, labor Economy, and Development. Dr. Rabeh is a Fellow in many of the regional and international economic research association like Economic Research Forum (ERF), Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS), and Middle East Economic Association (MEEA). He published more than 20 articles in international peer-reviewed journals, and many other reports and policy papers at local and international levels.

Mr. Ahmed El-Sobky | Founder and Managing Director, ACACIA Integration

The Managing Director of ACACIA Integration GmbH, the retired VP of the Information Technology Industry Development Agency, the founding Chairman of Silicon Waha and the general trustee of the Supreme Council for Cyber Security in Egypt. Working in the fields related to ICT since 1985. Worked as the Director of Strategic Projects at the Ministry of Investment and participated in managing a number of e-gov. projects implemented under the umbrella of the Ministry of State for Administrative Development.

Participated in developing the e-learning strategy for both Nile Basin and COMESA Countries as an Egyptian expert who participated in implementing the 1st. e-learning master's degree in the Middle East in collaboration with Middlesex University in UK and in establishing the Egyptian node for the GDL Network of the World Bank.

As a member of the Arab Workforce Group preparing the WSIS 1st. phase, he participated in formulating the document "Towards a Pan Arab Information Society - A Joint Action Plan".

Ms. Rania Sabry | Co-Founder & Business Director, eCartona

Rania is the Co-Founder & Business Director of eCartona. Founder and Managing Partner of TriLogy for Development and Consultation Services.

Rania has over 25 years of solid Business and management experience in Egypt, Europe, and Arab countries.

Rania helped in business start-ups for several industries. Rania is well versed with Commercial Departments set-up and Business Process Management. Her current passion is Digital and Regenerative Transformation.

Rania is a certified Life Coach by International Coaching Federation, Certified Trainer by American Management Association, Certified Auditor and Registered Coordinator with COPC for: High Performance Management Techniques, Customer Service Provider and Vendor Management Organization and Certified Performance Management Consultant, Compensation and Benefits Expert, Job Evaluation and Job Analysis by Hay Group.

Rania spent many years studying and analyzing wellness models and implementation plans, used in various reputable companies of the Fortune 500, and distinguished universities. The objective was to develop an Organizational Wellness Program to be introduced to the market and resulted in publishing her first book "Wellness: Responding to a Changing World" introducing a new concept to the corporate world.

Mr. Tarek AbdelRahim | chief executive officer (CEO), eGlobal

Mr. Hesham Safwat | chief executive officer (CEO) of the e-commerce platform Jumia, Egypt

Hesham joined Jumia in 2013, where he served as Chief Commercial Officer of Jumia Egypt, and since 2014 as CEO Jumia Egypt. He started his career in the Retail Sector at Pan-Arab Regional Retail Mega Store Chain in 2001 in Egypt and he managed to contribute to building the Retail Infrastructure of the company while developing both the Internal Merchandising System, and External Partners' Relationships. In 2019, Hesham was chosen by the Egyptian government as the Chairman of the Special Committee of E-Commerce to develop a practical vision to make an outburst in Egypt's E-Commerce business. Hesham is an Egyptian national with a bachelor's degree in Engineering from Ain Shams University in Cairo (Egypt), and an MBA from Middlesex University in London (UK).

Mr. Ahmed Said | Executive Director, International Policies Vice Chairman, ITU-T SG3, the National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA), B4 Smart Village, Giza.

Ahmed Said is the International Policies Executive Director of the National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA) of Egypt. At present, he is carrying out all the international policies related issues in the telecom sector and handling the international communication channels and international representation for NTRA. Mr. Said Department is also responsible for transferring the International best practices on the major telecom issues that are carried out by NTRA.

Mr. Said received his Master of Science in Business Information Technology from the University of Middlesex in London, in the year 2001 and he obtained his Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting, from Cairo University in the year 1999.

Mr. Said started his career in Mobinil (First mobile network operator in Egypt), followed by TheWayOut (Regional ISP head quartered in Egypt) whereby he reached the position of the business development manager. In 2002 Mr. Said moved to General Dynamics (U.S. based Corporation) as eGovernment and eBusiness Consultant.

In 2004 Mr. Said moved back to TheWayOut as the Head of WayOut Wireless (A Subsidy of TheWayOut Group) whereby he has

managed to expand the business of the company in the Middle East region opening 5 new offices in Dubai, Bahrain, Jordan, Oman, and Yemen.

In 2007 Mr. Said joined the National telecom regulatory authority as the economic affairs director. Throughout his career at NTRA he gained extensive experience in the field of telecommunications regulations, cost modeling, regulatory economics, and Market analysis.

Mr. Said was also a member of the implementation team responsible for the development of major regulatory frameworks in the Egyptian telecom market including Access Framework, International Gateway Frameworks and Egypt's national broadband plan and recently the 4G license framework.

Mr. Said has represented the Egyptian administration in several conferences & venues including the WTO, GSR, ITU Telecom indicators, WTSA12, PP14, WTSA16 and PP18...etc

Mr. Said is currently the Vice Chairman of ITU-T SG3 where he is leading the work on many topics like OTT, Mobile Financial services and Alternative calling procedures this is beside his active role in leading the restructuring process of ITU-T SG3 whereby he succeeded in adding more questions and expanding the area of study in the SG3. Also Mr. Said was appointed as the Chariman of ITU-T SG3 RG ARB where he led the Arab member states in starting this regional group and expanded the activities to study a lot of topics that

interests the Arab region and positioned the group as an active regional group within SG3. Recently Mr. Said has been also appointed as a Vice chair for the Focus Group on Digital Fiat Currency, leading the regulatory and economic impact working group.

Since His nomination as a Vice chair in ITU-T SG3, Mr. Said lead the group restructuring exercise and through his effort as a lead for the rapporteur group for restructure he succeeded reaching consensus on the current new structure of ITU-T SG3. Mr. Said also led the work on OTTs and chaired the rapporteur group of OTTS engaging the OTT companies within the ITU-T for the first time and getting approval on the new recommendation on OTT d.262.

Mr. Said has also led the very challenging rapporteur group of mobile financial services where he succeeded in reaching consensus on approval of the new recommendation D.263 on Mobile financial services. Mr. Said experience in the field of financial inclusion and digital financial services were utilized through his work in the Focus group on Digital financial services and Digital Fiat currency and finally in the FIGI initiative where he leads the Egyptian Country implementation team in Coordination with the ITU.

Mr. Ali Awdeh | Head of Economic Research, Union of Arab Banks

Ali Awdeh, Head of Economic Research at the Union of Arab Banks. Holds A PhD in Finance from City, University of London. Ali Awdeh is also an academic and researcher in banking, monetary policy, and financing for development.