

Co-Moderators



Mr. Ayman El Sherbiny | Chief of ICT Policies and Digital Development, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)

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 Technology companies, as well as in the Telecom and Internet Sector in Egypt and the Arab Region during the nineties till 2002. By 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 on Arabic Domain Names across several geographical groups. He is a regular speaker in 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.



Mr. Qusai AlShatti | Former Chair of the Inaugural Arab IGF 2012 and strategic partner to Arab IGF 2020, AMPAC

Qusai AlShatti is the Deputy Director General of CAIT. Before joining CAIT, he was a specialist in the field of information technology at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and served as a Division Director at the Ministry of Public Works and Deputy Chairman for Kuwait Information Technology Society. He is a member of the Advisory Group of Internet Governance Forum, United Nations. He is also a member of the steering committee of the national e-Awards of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science. Al Shatti has a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from George Washington University, US.

Speakers



Mr. Chengetai Masango | Programme and Technology Manager, United Nations Secretariat for the Internet Governance Forum

Mr. Chengetai Masango is the head of the Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) which was set up after the World Summit on the Information Society to facilitate public policy discourse on issues related to key elements of Internet governance in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet. Mr. Masango holds a master's degree in International Relations- Global Information Policy and degrees in Information Management and Computer Programming.



Ms. Christine Arida | Strategic Planning Sector Head National Telecom Regulatory Authority, Egypt

Christine Arida is Executive Director for Telecom Services Planning at NTRA, Egypt. She has more than 25 years of work experience with the government of Egypt, in areas of Internet development and related public policies. During her work at NTRA she has participated in establishing the “DNS Entrepreneurship Center for Africa and the Middle East” in 2014, has led the drafting of Egypt’s National Broadband Plan “eMisr” in 2011 and has participated in the launching of Egypt’s IDN ccTLD “dotMasr” in 2010. From 2001 to 2006 she has worked for the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, where she participated in drafting “Egypt’s Telecommunication Master Plan” in 2004 and drafting “Egypt’s Broadband Agenda 2004–2007”. Ms. Arida represents the government of Egypt at the IGF MAG, is a co-founder of the Arab IGF and presently leads its secretariat. She is board member of ISOC Egypt Chapter, serves as chair of the Arab gTLDs Project Steering Committee at the League of Arab States and is founding member of AfriNIC. Ms. Arida started her career at the Cabinet’s Information and Decision Support Center in 1992, where she was among the team who first connected Egypt to the Internet. She holds a B.Sc. degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering from the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University.



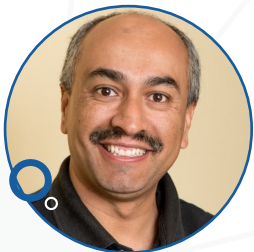
Ms. Wafa Al Dahmani | Director of IT Emergency Response and Support, Agence Nationale de la Securite Informatique, Tunis

Wafa Dahmani is a Senior Engineer head of NIC/LIR department in ATI responsible for the management of the national ccTLD registry “.tn” and the National Register IPv4 / IPv6 (Local Internet Registry). She has more than fifteen years of experience (since 1999) in systems and network administration, software engineering, requirements analysis, architecture design, implementation, and management of Internet core network services.

Wafa progressed from exploiting, supervising, and upgrading Internet core network services, to the management of the Network Information Center of the Tunisian Internet Operator. She worked closely and effectively with all levels of management to satisfy project/productivity/SLA requirements.

She is an eternal student of nature, including curiosity and self-learning as an essential tool in the creation of added value and efficiency in mastering the new challenges.

Wafa is a member of the Address Council, ALAC, and ccNSO within ICANN. She is also Vice-chair Tunisian MAG-IGF and an IGMENA Alumna



Mr. Walid Al Saqaf | Senior Lecturer, Södertörn University, Sweden

Assoc. Prof. Walid Al-Saqaf is a Senior Lecturer in Journalism and Media Technology at Södertörn University in Stockholm where his interests revolve around the intersection of journalism and technology including blockchain, artificial intelligence, robotics, and big data. He has a BSc degree in computer engineering and a PhD in media studies, which enabled him to pursue interdisciplinary research in applied and social science fields. Among the roles he is known for is his position as a trustee of the Board of the Internet Society (ISOC), the Chair of the Middle East Strategy and Adjoining Countries Working Group of the Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and as a co-founder and Vice President of the ISOC Blockchain Special Interest Group. He is a frequent speaker and trainer in the scope of blockchain technology and journalism and has given presentations on and has written about its potential applications in the field of journalism and media. Apart from his ongoing academic career, Walid also has a professional journalism background as the Publisher and Editor in Chief of Yemen’s first English language newspaper Yemen Times (1999-2005) and was an editor at the Washington DC Bureau of the Wall Street Journal in 2005. Walid’s unique position as a scholar based in Sweden as well as a software developer of Arab background helped him develop a wide range of networks and expertise to contribute to technical and policy discussions around Internet-related issues on several platforms such as ISOC, ICANN, the Internet Governance Forum and the World Wide Web Foundation. This helped him build bridges between developing and developed countries when it comes to addressing key issues that concern Internet users around the world. Beyond research, Al-Saqaf’s interests focus on the non-commercial use of ICTs and its impact on and promotion of economic development.



Ms. Zeina Bouharb | Head of International Cooperation at OGERO Telecom, Lebanon

With a BA in Business Administration focused on Marketing and Management, she has 24 years of experience in Marcom, Regulatory Affairs, and International Cooperation.

With the aim to position Lebanon on global stages, she organized the Lebanese presence and national pavilions at MWC in Barcelona for 3 consecutive years.

Zeina was appointed by the UN General Secretary as IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group member where she served for 3 years, representing the Public sector in Lebanon and the Arab Region. She organized the Lebanese Open Forums at IGF Geneva 2017 and IGF Berlin 2019. Zeina is Member of the Arab MAG and of the Technical Cooperation Working Group, nominated by the League of Arab States and ESCWA, to work on the enhancement of the Arab IGF.

Currently, Zeina is heading the General Secretariat of the Lebanese IGF and its coordinator, and the representative of this initiative in the NRIs. She is managing Lebanon’s membership in “We Protect” and “We, The Internet” initiatives. She is leading OGERO’s activities related to “Girl’s in ICT” and Women empowerment as well as COP awareness campaigns.

Zeina is also member of the national committee for Children Online Safety within the Higher Council for Childhood and the Scientific Communication Coordinator for the Super Computer (High Performance Computing for Lebanon) project. Lately, she was selected as ICANN72 fellow and Vice Chair for the Advisory Board of the NoW4WTDC for the Arab Region