

ARAB INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani MA, Economics
Founder & Chairman Arab International Women's Forum

Haifa Al Kaylani is well known in international government and business circles as a high-impact change agent focusing on leadership in cultural and gender issues. A graduate of the American University of Beirut and University of Oxford, she brings a wide range of skills and experience to her personal mission of encouraging greater cultural understanding between Arab and international communities, supporting a strong role for women in that process.

Fluent in five languages, Mrs. Al Kaylani holds senior roles in several organizations in the UK and internationally as well as seats on the boards of charities, cultural institutions and NGOs. In 2006, Haifa Al Kaylani received recognition as one of 21 Leaders for the 21 Century by Women's eNews in New York. In February 2007 Haifa Al Kaylani was named as one of The Muslim Power 100 Leaders in the United Kingdom and received the Education Excellence Award.

Summary of roles: Founder & Chairman *Arab International Women's Forum*, Vice President International *The Women's Leadership Board at Harvard University*; Advisory Board Member *The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement*; Vice President *European Union for Women Achievement Awards*; Member Advisory Board and Past President *The Federation of International Women's Associations* in London; Member Advisory Board *Middle East Institute, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London*; Member International Advisory Board *Khalil Gibran Chair at University of Maryland*; Member of The Board of Trustees of *The British Edutrust Foundation*; Member of the *International Council of the Museum of Arts and Design* in New York.

Ambassador Samiha Abou Steit, Deputy Secretary General, National Council of Women since November 2000 in Egypt, Ambassador Abou Steit has a long and distinguished career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Starting her diplomatic career in 1965, Ambassador Abou Steit rose through the senior ranks of the department to become Deputy Assistant Minister for Western Europe Affairs & Egypt's Coordinator of Euro Mediterranean Negotiations for the Barcelona process. She was the Egyptian Consul General in London between 1996 and 2000.

Saida Agrebi is a Member of the Tunisian Parliament. She is also the Chairman of the Tunisian Mother's Association as well as the Maghreb Mother's Association. Saida has been involved at the highest level in Tunisia, the Arab World and internationally in women's organisations and she holds the title of consultant to a number of the UN organisations for women in development. She is also Vice President of the World Family Organisation. Saida has received many decorations including a recent award from HE President Ben Ali in Tunisia on the occasion of Tunisian Women's Day.

Assilah Zaher Al Harthy is the Founder-President and Managing Director of the InterLynx L.L.C.; a recently established Muscat-based private venture specialized to assist in facilitating international business and trade within the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Ms Al Harthy has recently taken up the position of Head of Corporate Affairs at the Oman Oil Company

S.A.O.C. (OOC), a company that is ultimately owned by the Government of the Sultanate of Oman. It has a net worth of US\$ 195 million and was created to give the Government a vehicle for pursuing investment opportunities in the energy sector both inside and outside Oman. With a successful career and respect within the business community, Assilah is a member and has been honored as one of the recipients of the Global Leader for Tomorrow at the 2001 Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. On October 1999, Ms. Assilah Al Harthy was appointed as a member of the Kennedy School's Dean Council and Ambassador for the School's outreach efforts in Oman.

HH Shaikha Lubna Al Qasimi –HH Shaikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Defense Minister, appointed Shaikha Lubna Al Qasimi as the managing director of Tejari.com, the Middle East's premier electronic business-to-business marketplace. In addition to managing Tejari.com, Shaikha Lubna heads the Dubai e-government team responsible for instituting e-government initiatives throughout the public sector. Prior to this appointment, Shaikha Lubna was the senior manager of the information systems department at the Dubai Ports Authority (DPA), a position she held for more than seven years. Before joining DPA, Shaikha Lubna acted as the Dubai branch manager for the General Information Authority, the organization responsible for automating the federal government of the United Arab Emirates. She has more than ten years of information technology management experience in the Middle East region.

Khalidah Ahmed Al-Qatami, with a Bachelor of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Science, Khalidah worked in the Ministry of Public Health from 1968 until 1981 and became Deputy General Manager of the only pharmaceutical plant in Kuwait. In 1982 she joined her father's business Al Khunaini Al Qatami General Trading Company as a division head and became Chairman of the company in 1995. She is also the Chairman of the Gulf Equipment Company in Dubai, a sister company. Khalidah was board member of Kremenco, a specialised oil services company in Kuwait for eight years and Company Vice Chairman from 1999 to 2001. She has had her own pharmacy, Al Qatami Pharmacy, for 20 years and has just started another company Al Khaldiya International General Trading. Khalidah is the founder member of the Kuwait Pharmaceutical Association since 1970.

Sheikha Hanadi Nasser Bin Khalid Al Thani graduated from Qatar University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Economics. Upon graduation she joined the Faculty of Economics at the University and worked as a researcher. In 1993 she obtained a Master of Science in Economics from London University, and worked as a lecturer at Qatar University for two years. Sheikha Hanadi is now serving as Vice Chairperson and Managing Director of the Qatar Ladies Investment Company. In addition, she is also the Vice President of Nasser Bin Khaled and Son's Group of Companies, one of the leading private institutions in the area. She is also an active member of many organisations and charities in the country.

Nadia Hassan Bakhurji, Interior Architect and President of Riwaq of the Kingdom Co. Ltd. Nadia graduated in 1989 from the College of Architecture and Planning in King Faisal University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia. Since then she established her own company, Riwaq of the Kingdom, which specializes in the design and implementation of architectural and interior design projects. Under her guidance Riwaq has become one of the leading design firms in Saudi Arabia today winning and executing projects Kingdom wide. From 1996 to 2001 Riwaq entered into partnership with the Kingdom Holdings Group owned by HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal creating new opportunities and areas of expertise within Riwaq. Nadia Bakhurji recently expanded Riwaq by creating a sister company, Riwaq.net, specializing in Internet services and E-commerce. She is also an artist and creative writer. Nadia is instrumental in introducing AIWF in Saudi Arabia.

Debra Davis, originally from Canada, Debra is Managing Director of a communications and media based partnership, EH! Communications Ltd, in London and Director of Communications sitting on the Board of AIWF. Debra started her career in a Montreal advertising agency, followed by 17 years in Ottawa working for Prime Minister Trudeau (1980-1984) and the current Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, as a special communications advisor (1989-1997). She joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 1997 and was appointed Counsellor (Public Affairs) to the Canadian High Commission in the UK in August 1997. In addition to communications, public affairs strategy development and project management, Debra has written several concepts and treatments for television productions.

Raghda Kurdi was born in Amman. She is a member of the board of directors of Hayat Pharmaceutical Industries, a Jordanian pharmaceutical manufacturing and marketing company. She is also Member of his Majesty King Abdullah II Economic Consultative Council and Member of Amman City Council. In support of women's issues, she is a member of the higher council of the Jordanian National Forum for Women and Member of the Business and Professional Women Association. Raghda owns and manages two pharmacies. She has a B.Sc. Pharmacy. American University of Beirut and has participated in the Leadership and Team Effectiveness executive program, Yale school of Management.

Dr Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra, born in Curitiba, Brazil, is a physician. She graduated at the Medical Academy of Cracow, Poland, with a Master in Social Pediatrics and Public Health at St. Barnabas University, Livingston, NJ, USA, and a Doctorate in Maternal and Child Health Care at MSH College, Boston -USA. For many years she has been a consultant for designing and implementing maternal, child and family health programmes and projects for the United Nations' major agencies such as the World Health Organization and the World Bank. Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra is also specialist in organizing the work of the Third Sector (NGOs) to work in partnership with local governments and private sector in implementing Corporate Social Responsibility programmes. Since 1997, Dr Kusztra has been the President of the World Family Organisation based in Paris.

Peta Payne, Chairman, European Women of Achievement Awards from 1998 to present, Vice Chairman of the Awards in 1997. The Awards recognise outstanding achievement with a significant European dimension in the arts and media, business, the professions and the

humanitarian sectors. Peta has also been the Chairman of the British Section of the European Union of Women since 2000 and Vice Chairman from 1998 till 2000. From 1996 to 2000, she organised a number of European Seminars in the City of London. Through her work with Members of the European Parliament Peta is particularly keen to foster greater understanding and contact between Arab and European women. Her earlier career was with the Bank of England during which time Peta handled the Kuwait Investment portfolio.

Sylvia G. Perry, Honorary Treasurer of AIWF, Secretary of UNIFEM UK, Fellow, Royal Society of Arts, Past President, Business and Professional Women International and their representative at ECE, Geneva. She has involvement in a number of other organisations concerned with women's development in business and public life and international cooperation. These have included the European Women's Lobby and attendance at numerous UN Conferences.

Inge Relph, South African born and now a long time UK resident, Inge for many years was involved in marketing and energy regulation, representing the UK on the UN Energy Commission and also at EU level. Inge is now a consultant in strategic management, executive development and communications. She is Past Chair of the London Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Group, and present Chair of WOMANKIND Worldwide, a development agency for women and Chair of a multimedia publishing company specializing in religion. Inge is Honorary Secretary of AIWF.