

INDUSTRY TITANS TO ATTEND GLOBAL ISLAMIC FINANCE EVENT

WIBC 2016 IN MANAMA FROM DEC 5 TO 7

KUWAIT: The 23rd edition of the World Islamic Banking Conference (WIBC) will see a global participation with leaders from different regions across the world. The conference held in strategic partnership with the Central Bank of Bahrain will take place in Manama, Bahrain on the 5th, 6th and 7th of December 2016 and will feature a groundbreaking lineup of speakers.

The World Islamic Banking Conference is the longest running Islamic finance conference that speaks of a 23-year heritage with a robust platform that comprises of leading bankers, institutional investors, asset managers, policy makers, academics and other stakeholders. This year, WIBC will engage its audience in discussions on the challenges brought by the uncertainties in the global economic environment and highlight the need for Islamic finance to stay vigilant in order to maintain the current growth rates.

For 22 years, WIBC has been welcoming high profile delegations including regulators and government officials from various regions to discuss the future direction of this rapidly growing industry. This year, WIBC 2016 will welcome 3 high profile keynote speakers from leading emerging markets.

Saudi Arabia is one of the most active and influential markets in the Islamic finance space today as it is home to a number of dedicated Islamic Banks, as well as Islamic window operations offered through conventional banks. A great demand in Islamic finance products in this region, makes it one of the biggest markets in the GCC.

Dr Ahmed Al-Kholifey, who heads the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) and engages in research and international



Keynote speakers at WIBC 2016

affairs will provide a keynote speech at WIBC relating to the opportunities available in this region. Russia, being the latest entrant into this booming structure, is looking to use Islamic finance to further its efforts of exploring new ways of financing and develop its economy by welcoming international investors from emerging markets. Speaking to this effect is Alexander P. Torshin, State Secretary - Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Russia who will represent Russia's initiative in collaborating with Islamic finance institutions to pave way for the industry to tap into the opportunities in the CIS region.

Bahrain, the host nation of WIBC for the past 23 years has rapidly become a global leader in Islamic finance, playing host to the largest concentration of Islamic financial institutions in the Middle East. In particular, the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) continues to provide strong support to the financial industry which provides a significant percentage to the country's GDP and

economy as a whole. Rasheed Mohammed Al-Maraj, Governor, Central Bank of Bahrain has been an integral part of WIBC and will continue providing his support this year in a keynote speech, to help in furthering the ecosystem for Islamic finance entities to thrive and grow in the global markets.

Other confirmed speakers include:

- * Khalid Hamad Abdul-Rahman Hamad, Executive Director - Banking Supervision, Central Bank of Bahrain
- * Adel Abdul Wahab Al-Majed, Vice-Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Boubyan Bank
- * Hamed Hassan Merah, Secretary General, AAOIFI
- * Tirad Mahmoud, Group Chief Executive Officer, Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank (ADIB)
- * Dr Anwar Al Sadah, First Group Deputy CEO, Al-Salam Bank
- * Ahsan Ali Managing Director, Head of Islamic Origination, Standard Chartered Bank

- * Dr Yahia Abdul-Rahman, Chairman & CEO, The LARIBA System- Bank of Whittier
- * Farmida Bi, Head of Islamic Finance - Europe, Norton Rose Fulbright
- * Mustafa Adil, Head of Islamic Finance, Thomson Reuters
- * Mohammed Kateeb, Group Chairman & CEO, Path Solutions
- * Cassim Docrat, Regional Director, DDCAP Group
- * Kurt Lieberman, Chief Executive Officer, Magni Global Asset Management LLC
- * Fadi Al-Faqih, CEO, Bank of Khartoum
- * Fadi Al-Qutub, Chief Investment Officer, Al-Istithmar Capital
- * Onur Takmak, Founding Partner & Chairman, RHEA Asset Management
- * Hassan Amin Jarrar, Chief Executive Officer, Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB)
- * Ashar Nazim, Partner, EY
- * Bashar Al-Natooor, Global Head of Islamic Finance, Fitch Ratings
- * Lilian Le Falher, Executive Manager, Head of Treasury Kuwait Finance

- House, Bahrain
 - * Dr Daan Elffers, Founder, Islamic Reporting Initiative
 - * Rehan Pathan, Head of Middle East and Malaysia, Arabesque Asset Management
 - * Dr Ashraf Gamal El Din, Chief Executive Officer, Hawkamah
 - * Najj Moukadam, Managing Director, SAB
 - * Samer Hijazi, Head of Islamic Finance, Grant Thornton UAE
 - * Marco Lichtfous, Partner, Deloitte Tax and Consulting
 - * Stuart Hutton, Chief Investment Officer, Simply Ethical
 - * Abdulla R. Shafeea, Head of Asset Management, The Investor for Securities Company
 - * Mohammad Raafi Hossain, Founder, Finocracy
 - * Tariq Al-Rifai, CEO, Quorum Centre for Strategic Studies
 - * Monem Salam, President and Fund Manager, Saturna Sdn Bhd
 - * Dr Hatim El-Tahir, Director Deloitte & Touche, Middle East
 - * Mark Smyth, Chief Investment Officer, Tawreeq Holdings
 - * Shabnam Mohammad, Head of Structuring MENA & Group Head of Islamic Finance, Tell Group
 - * Dr. Aishath Muneeza, Associate Professor, INCIIEF
 - * Nida Raza, Director Advisory Services, The Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD)
 - * Hamza Abu-Musa, Founder, SharedEq
 - * Dr Mohammed Abdel-Haq, CEO, Oakstone Merchant Bank
- WIBC 2016 is a three-day gathering of the financial industry's leaders, taking place on the 5th, 6th and 7th of December at the Gulf Hotel in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.



MELBOURNE: Etihad Airways' General Manager for Australia and New Zealand, Sarah Built, accepts the award for Australasia's Leading Airport Lounge from event hosts Greg Ohan (left) and Mai Anh Du (right).

ETIHAD AIRWAYS' MELBOURNE PREMIUM LOUNGE NAMED AUSTRALASIA'S BEST

ABU DHABI: Etihad Airways' Premium Lounge at Melbourne Airport has been voted Australasia's Leading Airport Lounge for 2016. The announcement was made at the 23rd Annual World Travel Awards Asia and Australasia Ceremony in Danang, Vietnam on 15 October.

Etihad Airways' Chief Executive Officer, Peter Baumgartner, expressed delight at the win, the airline's first ever at an Asia and Australasia World Travel Awards ceremony. "This award is a powerful endorsement of the superior quality of our Premium Lounge at Melbourne Airport and the hard work and commitment to excellence of the team."

"It attests to the competitive benchmark we have set in Melbourne and the high level of guest satisfaction with the world-class hospitality experience we deliver. "It's especially gratifying as it comes just months after the lounge opened in May this year and adds to the growing acclaim for our remarkable collection of premium lounges worldwide."

The award for Australasia's Leading Airport Lounge is one of the many the airline has received throughout 2016. Only last month, its new First Class Lounge and Spa at Abu Dhabi Airport was voted the Middle East's Leading Airport Lounge at the Middle East World Travel Awards.

Etihad Airways has a collection of 15 airport lounges worldwide. This includes the flagship First Class Lounge and Spa in Terminal 3; Premium Lounges in Terminals 1 and 3; a Premium Lounge within the unique US Customs and Border Protection facility; and a Premium Arrivals Lounge - all at Abu Dhabi Airport - plus Premium Lounges in Sydney, Frankfurt, London Heathrow, Manchester, Dublin, Paris, New York JFK, Washington DC, and Los Angeles. Its lounges resemble in style and ambience a luxury hotel or private members' club. They offer guests a tranquil environment where they can relax, re-energize, dine or be entertained, while

enjoying the intuitive service and hospitality for which the airline is world-renowned. In its lounges and in the air, Etihad Airways aims to provide a seamless hospitality experience with the same high levels of innovation, care, attention to detail and service delivery guests have come to expect from its people and brand.

Now in its 23rd year, the World Travel Awards celebrates excellence across key sectors of the travel and tourism industry. Votes are cast by travel industry executives and travel consumers.

The Etihad Airways Premium Lounge at Melbourne Airport opened officially on 9 May 2016. A natural light-filled space with floor-to-ceiling glass, it offers guests expansive views across the runway and surrounding countryside. At more than 800m2 and with seating for up to 133, it is the airline's largest Premium Lounge outside Abu Dhabi.

Blending the essence of a fine-dining restaurant with a chic city cocktail bar, the lounge is a showcase of intelligent design and urban sophistication. Guests enjoy the comfort and luxury of top-quality custom furnishings and the hospitality, culinary excellence and cutting-edge beverage technology, which are the hallmarks of an Etihad Airways Premium Lounge.

Its features include an intimate 26-seat dining area and a fully equipped kitchen where a team of professional chefs prepares everything on the premises. The centerpiece is a sculptural showcase bar serving a wide selection of local wines, one-of-a-kind signature cocktails and mocktails developed exclusively for the airline by Fluid Movement, a world-leading London-based mixology consultancy; and more than 70 varieties of spirits. It also has an exclusive space for guests travelling in The Residence, the world's only private three-room cabin on a commercial aircraft, available only on Etihad Airways' A380.

KAMCO WINS 'BEST WEALTH MANAGEMENT CO' AWARD

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE MAGAZINE

KUWAIT: KAMCO Investment Company, a leading investment company with one of the largest AUMs in the region, has been awarded the "Best Wealth Management Company - Kuwait" from International Finance Magazine ("IFM"), a renowned financial publication that recognizes and honors individuals, as well as organizations, in the financial investment industry. The awards were presented to those who made a significant value addition to the industry through innovative products and services.

KAMCO was awarded the "Best Wealth Management Company - Kuwait" amongst a pool of nominees who went through a reader and expert analysis process, followed by extensive scrutiny on the basis of innovation, growth, sustainability and their contribution towards society. Commenting on the award, Sana Al-Hadlaq, Acting Chief Wealth Officer of KAMCO, said, "This award underscores KAMCO's ability to deliver superior and unique wealth management services and capabilities exceeding the expectations of our high net worth clients and the local industry. We strive to set the standard of excellence in our industry and in all that we do by providing personalized solutions, trusted advice, and professional expertise. The Wealth Management team's leadership and expertise has driven the success of KAMCO's active role in becoming one of the leading Asset

Management and Investment Banking providers in the local and regional markets."

Al-Hadlaq added, "We would like to dedicate this award to our loyal clients who believed in our ability to achieve their investment objectives. The trust and confidence they have placed in us indicates the close relationship we have built with our clients over the years. Our team is efficient in meet-



Sana Al-Hadlaq, Acting Chief Wealth Officer of KAMCO.

said that all Wealth Management services are based on a framework that includes extensive risk management, detailed financial advice, and access to KAMCO's network and capabilities.

The Wealth Management team caters to a wide client base that includes corporates, high net worth individuals, sovereign wealth funds, pensions, endowments, foundations and family offices, she added.

ing the diverse needs of our clients through customized innovative products and services." Al-Hadlaq further said that the Wealth Management team would continue to work closely with clients in identifying their investment goals and tailoring custom packages that suit their needs. She also



KFH ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF SECOND AL-RABEH DRAW

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the winners of the second draw of Al-Rabeh account that took place at 360 Mall amidst huge participation and attendance.

The draw was conducted under the supervision of representatives of the Ministry of Commerce where KFH revealed three winners of two 2016 Range Rovers and 3 kg of gold. The winners are Rafea Hamad Alajmi and Amal Saud Alotaibi of 2016 Range Rover's for each, while Mohammad Abdulaziz Altamimi won 3 kg of Gold. Amidst exciting and suspense atmospheres, Private Banking General Manager at KFH, Waleed Khaled Mandani handed out the prizes to the winners. The big event also witnessed a number of competitions and winners in addition to some folkloric performance.

Al-Rabeh salary account, which was launched last February, is an investment savings account based on Mudaraba sharia principle that gives clients annual profit distributions. Clients can open this account at any of KFH 64 branches around Kuwait. It is noteworthy that the account is offered for clients wishing to transfer their salaries and manage their personal accounts with the ability to save and invest. Al-Rabeh account is available for individuals in KD and it requires salary transfer as a prerequisite.

With regards to the prizes campaign terms and conditions, KFH gives away two Range Rovers 2016

HSE for the first two winners and a 3 KG gold for the third winner in quarterly draws to be held in the months of January, April, July, and October, providing that clients should have deposited 3 salaries in the three months prior to the draw, yet their minimum monthly balance is not less than KD 50 by the end of each month, bearing in mind that each KD 50 in the account entitles clients to one entry in the draw, thus more money in an account means more chances to win. KFH is keen on improving its bank-

ing products and services in line with clients' requirement in efforts to achieve customer satisfaction and cater more closely for their needs.

KFH endeavors to offer unique advantages and valuable prizes stemming from its continuing endeavors to offer outstanding products and services that address clients' requirements and meet their aspirations, yet consolidate Bank's prestigious status and excellence in offering products as per the highest standards of quality.



Waleed Mandani handing out the prizes to the winners.