



Dr. Nasser H. Saidi

Chief Economist and Head of External Relations at the DIFC Authority (DIFCA) and Executive Director of the Hawkamah-Institute for Corporate Governance

Dr. Nasser H. Saidi is the Chief Economist since 2006 and is Head of External Relations at the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Authority. He leads the external links with governments, central banks, financial centre counterparts as well as international organisations. Dr. Nasser is also the Executive Director of the Hawkamah-Institute for Corporate Governance and The Mudara Institute of Directors at the DIFC.

Dr. Nasser is a member of the IMF's Regional Advisory Group for MENA and Co-Chair of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) MENA Corporate Governance Working Group. He is also Chair of the recently established regional Clean Energy Business Council and was appointed as a member of the World Economic Forum's Public & Institutional Investors Industry Agenda Council. In 2010, he was named among the 50 most influential Arabs in the World by The Middle East magazine, for the second year.

Dr. Nasser was the Minister of Economy and Trade and Minister of Industry of Lebanon between 1998 and 2000. He was the first Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon for two successive mandates, 1993-1998 and 1998-2003. He was a Member of the UN Committee for Development Policy (UNCDP) for two mandates over the period 2000-2006, a position to which he was appointed by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, in his personal capacity.

He has written a number of books and numerous publications addressing macroeconomic, capital market development and international economic issues in Lebanon and the region and is the author of, "Corporate Governance in the MENA countries: Improving Transparency & Disclosure". His research interests include macroeconomics, financial market development, payment systems and international economic policy, and information and communication technology (ICT).

Dr. Nasser was a private banker and served as an economic adviser and director to a number of central banks and financial institutions in Arab countries, Europe and Central and Latin America. Prior to his public career, Dr. Nasser pursued a career as an academic, serving as a Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics in the University of Chicago, the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales (Geneva, CH), and the Université de Genève. He also served as a lecturer at the American University of Beirut and the Université St. Joseph in Beirut.

Dr. Nasser holds a Ph.D. and a M.A. in Economics from the University of Rochester in the U.S.A, a M.Sc. from University College, London University and a B.A. from the American University of Beirut.



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