

## HIGH-LEVEL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

*Jointly organized by the Ministry of Finance, Algeria, the World Bank Group and the Arab Monetary Fund*

### A New Economy for Middle East and North Africa Countries: Youth, Technology and Finance

**March 26-27, 2018**

**The Centre International de Conférences Abdelatif Rahal (CIC)  
BP 67-16098 Club des Pins, Staoueli – Algiers, Algeria**

#### DRAFT AGENDA

### Day 1— Monday, March 26, 2018

**8:00 AM** *Breakfast and Registration*

**8:30 AM** **OPENING SESSION**

**Ahmed Ouyahia**, Prime Minister, People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria  
**Abderrahmane Raouya**, Minister of Finance, People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria  
**Hafez Ghanem**, Vice President, Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank Group  
**Abdulrahman A. Al Hamidy**, Director General Chairman of the Board, Arab Monetary Fund

**Jim Yong Kim**, President, World Bank Group (by video)

**9:00 AM** **PANEL SESSION 1. START-UPS AND UNICORNS**

Moderator: **Rebeen Pasha**, Founder of MyeDream Incubator, Iraq, and StartUP Middle East

Keynote address: **Mudassir Sheikha**, CEO and Co-Founder, Careem

Keynote address: **Kamran Elahian**, Founder and Chairman, Global Innovation Catalyst

Panelist: **Ala' Alasallal**, CEO, Jamalon

Panelist: **Riad Hartani**, Co-founder, Xona Partners & iValley.co

Panelist: **Ghinwa Jalloul**, Founder and CEO, Torch

Panelist: **Xavier Reille**, IFC Country Manager for the Maghreb region, World Bank Group

**11:00 AM** *Coffee break*

**11:30 AM PANEL SESSION 2. DIGITAL JOB PLATFORMS**

Moderator: **Parmesh Shah**, Global Lead for Jobs, Agriculture Global Practice, World Bank Group

Panelist: **Waleid Asad**, Executive Director of Enterprise, Silatech

Panelist: **Mahmoud Shayeb**, Chief Operating Officer, SoukTel

Panelist: **Sean Blagsvedt**, Founder and former CEO Babajobs.com

Panelist: **Krimo Salem**, Founder and CEO, If And Then, Inc.

Panelist: **Mudassir Sheikha**, CEO and Co-Founder, Careem

**1:00 PM** *Lunch*

**2:00 PM PANEL SESSION 3. REGULATION AS A CATALYST FOR INNOVATION**

Moderator: **Faraoun Houda-Iman**, Minister of Post, Information Technology &

Communication, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Keynote address: **Mr. R. S. Sharma**, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

Keynote address: **Martin Peitz**, Professor, University of Mannheim

Panelist: **Marie Françoise Marie-Nelly**, Country Director for the Maghreb Region, World Bank Group

Panelist: **Federica Maiorano**, Senior Competition Expert, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Panelist: **Noureddine Tayebi**, Founder and CEO, InSense Inc. and Founder and Chairman of the Board of VA Technologies, Algiers

**4:00 PM** *Coffee break*

**4:30 PM PANEL SESSION 4. FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Moderator: **Abderrahmane Raouya**, Minister of Finance, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Keynote address: **Lemma Senbet**, Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium and University of Maryland

Panelist: **Ragavan Venkatesan**, Head, Digital Payments & Alternate Channels, IDFC Bank

Panelist: **Abhishant Pant**, Founder, Cashless Journey

Panelist: **Kamran Elahian**, Founder and Chairman, Global Innovation Catalyst

Panelist: **Habib Attia**, Senior Financial Economist, Arab Monetary Fund

Panelist: **Issa Aghabi**, IFC Investment Officer, Venture Investing, World Bank Group

**7:30 PM** *Gala Dinner*

## Day 2—Tuesday, March 27, 2018

**8:30 AM** *Breakfast*

### **9:00 AM** **PANEL SESSION 5. EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**

Moderator: **Nouria Benghabrit**, Minister of National Education, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Keynote address: **Hayat Sindi**, Special Advisor to the Islamic Development Bank's President, IsDB

Panelist: **Nadir Mohammed**, GCC Country Director, World Bank Group

Panelist: **Salvatore Nigro**, Global Vice President, Education for Employment.

Panelist: **Kamran Elahian**, Founder and Chairman, Global Innovation Catalyst

Panelist: **Lesly Goh**, Director, Information and Technology Solutions Vice Presidency, World Bank Group

Panelist: **Mussaad Al-Razouki**, Chief Business Development Officer, Kuwait Life Sciences

**10:30 AM** *Coffee break*

### **11:00 AM** **PANEL SESSION 6. DIGITAL AGRICULTURE**

Moderator: **Parmesh Shah**, Global lead on jobs, World Bank Group

Panelist: **Castro Antwi-Danso**, Director of Sales and Marketing, Esoko

Panelist: **Lavandez (Van) Jones**, co-founder, Hellotractor

Panelist: **Maurits Voogt**, Managing Director, Eleaf

Panelist: **Simone Strey**, CEO, PEAT/Plantix

Panelist: **Maria Claudia Pachon**, Engagement Director, CiBO

**1:00 PM** *Lunch*

### **2:00 PM** **MINISTERS CLOSING ROUNDTABLE**

Co-Chair: **Abderrahmane Raouya**, Minister of Finance, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Co-Chair: **Hafez Ghanem**, Vice President, Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank Group

Co-Chair: **Abdulrahman A. Al Hamidy**, Director General Chairman of the Board, Arab Monetary Fund

### **3:30 PM** **PRESS CONFERENCE**

**Abderrahmane Raouya**, Minister of Finance, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

**Hafez Ghanem**, Vice President, Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank Group

**Abdulrahman A. Al Hamidy**, Director General Chairman of the Board, Arab Monetary Fund