ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING 2015

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Sunday, 29th March 2015

14:00 – 17:00  Workshop I – FDI Capacity Workshop for Investment Promotion Professionals: “The role of Investment Promotion Agencies in promoting innovation”

Venue: Dubai meeting Room B
Language: English/French

14:00 – 17:00  Workshop II – The eligibility of the private sector for Islamic Finance Mechanism especially for attracting high-end industries

Venue: Dubai meeting Room E
Language: English/French

Day One – Monday, 30th March 2015

09:00 – 10:00  Delegates Proceed to the Plenary Room
Venue: Sheikh Rashid Hall
Language: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

10:00 - 10:05  Welcome Remarks by the Master of Ceremony

10:05 - 10:12  Host City Partner Keynote Speech

10:12 - 10:25  Country/City of Honor Keynote Speech

10:25 – 10:45  Launching the 2nd Edition of AIM Annual FDI Report

Presentation of AIM FDI Report by Dr Karl P. Sauvant, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, Columbia Law School - Earth Institute, USA

The annual flagship publication of the Annual Investment Meeting will be launched highlighting the general theme of the conference and revealing the latest trends in FDI and OFDI flows globally and regionally in particular in growing markets. A special focus will be made on the competitiveness of fast growth markets and key opportunities and challenges they have to face in a fast moving and unpredictable world.
10:45 – 11:45  **Plenary Session One: Global Leaders Debate**
Business leaders, senior public officials and heads of international institutions and academia representing some major stakeholders of the international investment community will be invited to take part in this important session. The debate will be focused on the overall theme of the conference to discuss and share views and lessons learnt as well as present their personal assessment on how to invest in growth and to find sustainable solutions to further the cause of development in times of an economic revival.

**Venue:** Sheikh Rashid Hall
**Language:** English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

10:50 – 13:00  **Grand Opening Ceremony**

13:00 – 13:15  **Inauguration of AIM 2015 Exhibition**

13:15 – 14:30  **High-Level Strategic Networking Cocktail (by invitation only)**
**Venue:** Bubble Lounge

13:15 – 14:30  **Lunch break and Networking (Delegates)**
**Venue:** Sheikh Rashid C&D

14:30 - 15:45  **Plenary Session Two: Policy options for the promotion of innovation and technology transfer through FDI**
This session will shed light on the policies that are needed in both host and home countries, at national and international levels to encourage technology transfer and dissemination through FDI. In host countries, a clearly-defined strategy and the right mix of policy instruments and business conditions are needed. The session will discuss and draw lessons from successful cases to highlight best practice policy frameworks for enhancing technological and innovative contributions of global firms in the context of host developing countries. It will also consider the potential effects of home country policies.

**Venue:** Al Multaqa Ballroom
**Language:** English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

15:45 - 16:00  **Coffee break and Networking**
16:00–17:15  Plenary Session Three: Enabling investment regulatory frameworks from home and host countries to induce innovation and technology transfer. What intellectual property regime is needed? This panel discussion will focus on the latest trends in investment laws and regulations that are developed in source and beneficiary countries that promote the transfer of technology and innovation. It will pinpoint to the basic building blocks for the establishment of a conducive framework for technology transfer and dissemination including the protection intellectual property rights (IPRs). The establishment of a well-defined, balanced and enforceable system of IPRs creates incentives for knowledge generation and facilitates cross-border flows of technology. One of the most important questions that would be addressed is what intellectual property regime is needed to shape and enforce in a manner that guarantees wide access to appropriate technologies. What are the implications of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) which establishes international minimum standards of protection and enforcement for R&D-relevant IPRs, such as patents? To highlight cooperation therein and showcase successful case studies.

Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom
Language: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

19:30 – 22:30  Gala Dinner and Investment Awards

Venue: Armani / Burj Khalifa (1500 Participants)

Day Two, Tuesday 31st March 2015

All delegates make their way to AIM breakout sessions

9:00 – 10:00  Parallel Session One: FDI in Healthcare Services
Investment in health care services has been growing tremendously in the past decade. What are the determinants for attracting investment in this key sector? What are the implications of such investments on growth markets? This parallel session will shed light on some of these important elements and present successful country case studies highlighting specific location advantages.

Venue: Breakout Room 1
Language: English/French

9:00 – 10:00  Parallel Session Two: FDI in Education and skills development, salient trends and best practices.
This parallel session will discuss ways and means to enhance the technological contribution of foreign firms and how important education and skills’ development are in this process. A Skilled Workforce is key building strong, sustainable and balanced Growth.

Venue: Breakout Room 2
Language: English/French
9:00 – 10:00 Parallel Session Three: New Developments in FDI in the Energy Sector
Given the collapse in oil prices with US shale gas and slowing demand from China and Europe, implications for the global economy and growing economies in general and for the Middle East in particular are immense. This is perhaps the biggest structural change in the world economy since the rise of China. This key parallel session will look at some of these key developments and examine their far-reaching implications on emerging markets.

Venue: Breakout Room 3
Language: English/French

10:00 – 11:30 Ministerial Roundtable
The Ministerial Roundtable will be the occasion for ministers (5 to 6) from different countries and regions participating in AIM 2015 to share their views on the overall theme of the conference and the policies they would like to see enforced at the international level or any concrete actions or recommendations they would like to convey to an international body. Written contributions can be submitted beforehand, compiled by AIM Organizing Committee and analyzed to serve as a basis for the preparation of a consensus document reflecting the views of all ministers present. This document will be issued as an official outcome of the Roundtable for action and follow-up, and can be referred to as "AIM 2015 Ministerial Declaration on Investment".

Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom
Language: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

11:30 – 11:45 Coffee Break and Networking

11:45 – 13:00 Plenary Session Four: Expo2020
Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom
Language: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break and Networking

14:00 – 15:15 Plenary Session Five: Technology transfer through equity and non-equity forms of global firms’ involvement: salient features and implications
Global firms can transfer and diffuse technologies of many kinds, including a wide range of hard and soft elements. They do so through both foreign direct investment (FDI) and various non-equity forms of foreign operation. The bulk of technology dissemination is still undertaken through internalized channels within the networks of multinationals, but externalized channels by non-equity forms have become increasingly important. In addition, foreign affiliates can diffuse technology and skills to local firms, particularly through backward linkages. This plenary session will be the occasion to illustrate these important aspects with concrete examples at the firm, industry and country levels.

Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom
Language: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian
15:15 – 16:15  
**Plenary Session Six: Leveraging FDI for technology transfer and diffusion, successful country case studies**

To effectively leverage FDI as a means to achieve technology transfer and diffusion, countries need to establish an effective national innovation system (NIS) which provides an interface for technology-related global firms activity, supports the development of the absorptive capacities of domestic enterprises and their linkages with international enterprises, and provides a regulatory framework, including a balanced framework for intellectual property that enables the development of a knowledge base and technological capacities. The coherence between FDI policy and other relevant policies (especially innovation and science and technology policy) is important in this regard; and home country policies and international support can also play a role. This session will be the occasion to discuss selected case studies.

**Venue:** Al Multaqa Ballroom  
**Language:** English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

16:15 - 16:30  
**Coffee break and Networking**

16:30 – 17:45  
**Plenary Session Seven: The development of high-end industries, underlying factors behind a success story in China and the Asian Tigers**

China has made impressive progress in technology intensive and high-end manufacturing. What has made this possible? How did Chinese manufacturers obtain access to modern technology? This has been achieved through the process of 'Technology Transfer', a process by which technology, knowledge, skills and manufacturing methodologies are transferred from countries or companies to a given country allowing its economy to move up the manufacturing value-chain. The phenomenon of technology transfer is not a new one. The economic development of the Asian Tigers, starting from the 1970s, was also rooted in the process of technology transfer. In the initial stage of their economic development, Taiwan and South Korea imitated foreign technology from Japan. Japan in turn had become one of the most technologically advanced economies in the world after in part benefiting from technology transfer from the US. At present, both South Korea and Taiwan are leading innovators and have moved on to high-end manufacturing. What lessons can be drawn?

**Venue:** Al Multaqa Ballroom  
**Language:** English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian
Day Three, Wednesday 1st April 2015

All Delegates make their way to AIM breakouts sessions

9:00 – 11:00  **Parallel session four: FDI in Agriculture and technological advances, the case of Africa**
This session is led by Sun Business Strategies & Research (SBSR) to present and discuss the latest innovative business and investment strategies as well technologies that are being developed in Africa for the success of agricultural practice in the continent.

*Venue*: Breakout Room 1
*Language*: English/French

9:00 – 11:00  **Parallel session five: FDI in Logistics and Mining**

*Venue*: Breakout Room 2
*Language*: English/French

9:00 - 10:00  **Parallel session six: Incentives and asset-seeking FDI, the new rules of the game.**
This session is moderated by Investment Consulting Associates (ICA). Today the role of incentives in attracting FDI has become a hot topic among policy makers, business leaders and academia. Within governments the focus is on the one hand on political debates about revenue foregone versus economic development while business leaders often emphasize that incentives can play a role in the final stages of an investment decision. This panel highlights some recent developments in putting (fiscal) incentives in place for attracting higher value added activities. It also focuses on the investor’s experience in identifying potential incentives for innovation driven FDI and the role governments play in this process. The panel brings together both IPA executives and corporate investors and aims to create a dialogue about (fiscal) incentive strategies and policies that achieve both economic development goals as well as solves the immediate concerns of corporate investors.

*Venue*: Breakout Room 3
*Language*: English/French

10:00 – 11:15  **Plenary session eight: Corporate strategies and FDI determinants for the establishment of high-end industries. How to attract R&D-related FDI and integrate global knowledge networks?**
The outcome of the session would be a better understanding of how to attract investments for the establishment of research and development centers in different economic sectors and Industrial clusters.

*Venue*: Al Multaqa Ballroom
*Language*: English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

11:15 – 11:30  **Coffee Break and Networking**
11:30 – 12:45  **Plenary session nine: Investment promotion strategies to foster technology transfer and know-how and best practices therein, selected case studies.**

This plenary session, will examine the importance of marketing a country and how to run successful promotion campaigns to attract targeted FDI that would bring new technological processes and management know-how in various sectors. Selected case studies will be made of countries who have successfully attracted FDI of the right kind promoting high-end industries, and benefitted from it.

**Venue:** Al Mutqa Ballroom  
**Language:** English/French/Arabic/Spanish/Chinese/Russian

12:45  **Closing of AIM Conference**

14:00 – 16:00  **The New wave of Innovative Start-Ups in Growing Markets (Special Session for SMEs & Start-ups)**

New innovative companies are springing in various growing markets around the world playing an increasingly important role in the development of new solutions, processes and techniques for a more sustainable future. Many countries in Africa, Asia and elsewhere are now experiencing a new wave of innovative start-ups emerging, often focused on making real technological breakthrough adapted to their own economic and social needs in addition to profit and economic returns. The Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) wishes to bring to the limelight a number of these companies to showcase their new innovative entrepreneurial activities and get connected with investors and venture capitalists in search for lucrative investment opportunities. A session will be devoted entirely to discover some of these companies, to meet them and learn more about their ideas and markets.