

LEBANESE DIASPORA ENERGY **ABIDJAN**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2018

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants



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# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2018

**10:00 - 12:00**                    **Registration and Morning Coffee**  
**SPONSORED BY MEAB**

**12:00 - 13:30**                    **Official Opening Ceremony**

**13:30 - 15:00**                    **Lunch**  
**SPONSORED BY BYBLOS BANK**

**EMCEE first day workshop, Mr. Charbel Nemer;** Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Opening Remarks of first day workshop, H.E Raed KHOURY;** Minister of Economy & Commerce

**15:10 - 16:30**                    **Panel 1: West Africa - Investment Opportunities and Banking Initiatives**  
**SPONSORED BY MEDYAR**

The substantial number of Lebanese Diaspora in West Africa is both an opportunity to seize and a challenge to take into account when it comes to promoting the Lebanese presence in this area and encourage investments in both directions between Lebanon and the West African countries. This panel discusses investment opportunities and trading possibilities while raising the issue of enacting national laws to reach this end. This panel will equally address the measures adopted by the banks who offer services to the Lebanese diaspora. This shall contribute into a synergy of investments, a better flow of direct investments and funding which contributes to the mutual benefits of all stakeholders.

**Opening Remarks: H.E Ambassador Michel HADDAD;** Role of the Association of Banks in Lebanon (ABL) and Lebanese banks in serving Lebanese Diaspora investments.

**Moderators:**

**Mr. Charbel NASSAR** - Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Riad BOU KARROUM;** Geo-Economical position of Senegal and the role of the Lebanese diaspora in the framework of the "Plan Senegal emergent"

**H.E. Mr. Joseph EL HAGE;** Lebanese diaspora business partnerships and diaspora investment challenges in Lebanon

**Mr. Najib TANNOUS;** Untapped investment opportunities for the Lebanese diaspora in Liberia

**Mr. Sayed HAIDAR;** Offshore Banking Strategies in Africa

**Mr. Christian KHALIFEH;** Credit Libanais - From Senegal to Côte d'Ivoire-Facts and Expectations

**16:30- 17:45**

**Panel 2: North Africa - Capitalising on the Cultural and  
Brotherly Ties for Better Economic Relations  
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A great opportunity for the Lebanese diaspora in North Africa is the fact that they live closer to Lebanon in cities that hold ties with Lebanon ever since the dawn of civilisation. Promoting the cultural ties between Lebanon and the North African countries is essential to preserve the existing brotherly relations and lead ultimately to stronger collaboration in various aspects of mutual benefits such as trade, business, tourism and share of expertise. This panel will discuss the challenges of investing and the most prominent sectors for investment in Lebanon and in North Africa.

**Moderator:**

**Mr. Hamza JAMMOUL** - Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Nabil ITANI;** IDAL promoting investments in Lebanon. IDAL's Role, Projects and Tools

**Mr. Toufic BEAENY;** The Business Intelligence is vital to survive in the globalised economy. Challenges facing Lebanese companies, available tools and methodologies

**Mr. Tony G. CHAGOURY;** West Africa Lebanese Business Association - WALBA's power in business networking among Lebanese. WALBA looking forward North Africa

**Mr. Alain Achcar;** The Lebanese diaspora in Mali-bridging differences

**20:00**

**Reception in Honor of H.E. Minister Gebran Bassil  
The Lebanese cuisine "art and gourmet"**



# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> 2018

**9:00 - 10:00**

**Registration and Morning Coffee  
SPONSORED BY MEAB**

**EMCEE Second day workshop; Mr. Charbel Nemer;** Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Opening Remarks of second day workshop; Mr. Charles ARBID;** President of the Lebanese Socio-Economic Council.

**10:10 - 11:30  
Bridges**

**Panel 3: Central -, East - and Southern Africa - Building  
SPONSORED BY SUNFIRE MEDIA**

The Lebanese people residing in West and North Africa outnumber their fellows in South and East Africa. This panel addresses the incentives that can bring more Lebanese into central, south and East Africa to mirror the resonating success in the other sides of the continent.

South Africa among the other South African nations has proven to be a first regional power where investors from all around the world have started to keep a close eye on. Investors are finding great opportunities to fund a wide range of start-ups, such as businesses specializing in healthcare, crafts and communications technology. There has also been a movement to invest in “green” businesses, like renewable energy and sustainable technologies.

While central and East Africa countries are witnessing a growth in development and undergoing an economic revolution based on various resources and discovered riches that are still unexploited.

**Moderator:**

**Ms. Sawsan AWAD;** Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Panelists:**

**Mr. Colin REZEK;** The vital role of the financial institutions in directing investments in Africa, the criteria that the projects should meet in order to obtain the proper funding

**Mr. Mohammad BAZZI;** Investing in Energy :Electricity, Oil and Water

**Mr. Fadi BARBAR;** The major fields of investments in Sub-Saharan Africa, an overlook at the competition facing the Lebanese investors, and future prospects

**Mr. George ROUSTOM;** Finding the proper human resources, the guidelines for creating new companies able to compete in a challenging environment

**Mr. Ryan BAKOS;** The use of the climate change issue and the ever-growing need for renewable energy to bring Lebanese entrepreneurs into Africa, the challenges facing the entrepreneurs willing to open sub-Saharan businesses

**11:30 - 12:45**

**Panel 4: Lebanity - Mode de Vie - a Lifestyle  
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This panel will address the following issues:

- The importance of Lebanese nationality
- Branding Lebanon in culture, fashion and art
- Education and role of Lebanese schools in preserving the Arabic language
- Role of clubs and diaspora associations in keeping the ties between Lebanese Diaspora generations and their home country Lebanon

**Moderator: H.E Ambassador Elie TURK;** Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

**Panelists:**

**Mgr. Jean ABOU SERHAL;** The Lebanese mission amidst the Ivorian society: Education and Society

**Dr. Jihad JABER;** Role of the French university of Abidjan at the service of high education of the Lebanese community

**Mr. Fadi ASSAF;** Role of the Lebanese school in Cote d'Ivoire in preserving the Identity through language and education

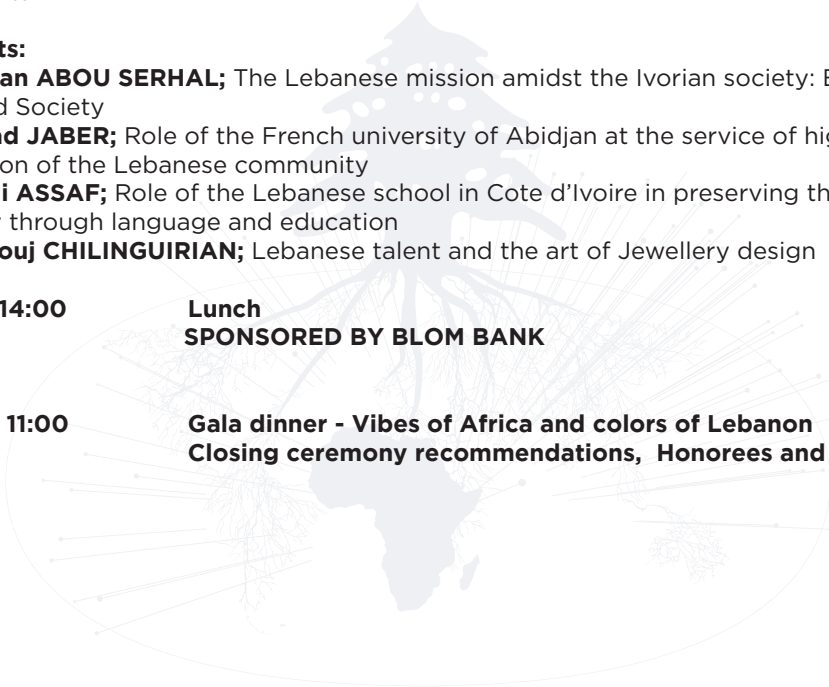
**Mr. Varouj CHILINGUIRIAN;** Lebanese talent and the art of Jewellery design

**12:45 - 14:00**

**Lunch  
SPONSORED BY BLOM BANK**

**20:30 - 11:00**

**Gala dinner - Vibes of Africa and colors of Lebanon  
Closing ceremony recommendations, Honorees and Awards**



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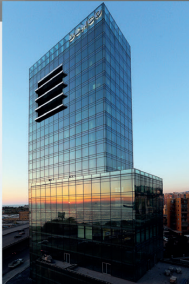
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