



First Pan-Arab Energy Trade Conference

Day One • Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Opening Session | The Strategic Importance of Regional Energy Trade for the Economies of the Arab Countries

H. E. Mr. Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad

Director General/Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development

Ambassador Dr. Kamal Hassan Ali

Assistant Secretary-General, Head of the Economic Sector, League of Arab States

Ms. Anna Bjerde

Director, Strategy and Operations, World Bank Group

H. E. Dr. Mohamed Shaker El-Markabi

Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt

Panelists



H. E. Mr. Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad,
Director
General/Chairman of the
Board of Directors, Arab
Fund for Economic

H.E. Mr. Abdlatif Al-Hamad is Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development; Trustee, Arab Planning Institute; Member of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Banking Advisory Board Group (World Bank); Member, the Board of the Kuwait Investment Authority, and Chairman, Development Committee Task Force on Multilateral Development Banks; and Member of the Board of Directors of BlackRock.

Since the early 1960s, Mr. Al-Hamad has been highly active in promoting economic and social development, particularly in the Arab world.

In this capacity, he has held several important posts. Among these, he served as Director, The South & Arabian Gulf Society (1963-1981); Director, The Assistance Authority for the Gulf and Southern Arabia (1967-1981); Chairman, the United Bank of Kuwait (1966-1981); and Executive Director, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (1972-1981). He was Minister of Finance and Minister of Planning, Kuwait (1981-1983).

Mr. Al-Hamad has also served on numerous commissions and boards, including: the Brandt Commission (1977-1980); Deputy Chairman of the International Institute for Environment and Development (1976-1989); Member and Chairman, United Nations Committee for Development Planning (1982-1991); Member of the South Commission (1987-1989); and Member of the Commission on Global Governance 1992. He has recently arranged the printing of the CGG report, Our Global Neighborhood, in Arabic.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, he studied in the USA, graduating from Claremont College (Honors, 1960) and the Harvard International Affairs Program (1962). Following his studies, Mr. Al-Hamad served as a member of the Kuwaiti delegation to the United Nations during its application for admission to this organization in 1962.



Ambassador Dr. Kamal Hassan Ali,
Assistant Secretary-General,
Head of the Economic Sector,
League of Arab States

H. E. Dr. Kamal holds a PhD. in Business Administration from the 'Neelain University' in 2012. He obtained two Masters Degrees in Business Administration from the 'Arab Academy for Science and Technology and Maritime Transport' in 2007 and from the 'Neelain University' in 2008. He graduated with a BSc. Honors from the 'University of Khartoum' in 1991.

He started his career in the field of media and journalism as 'Editor' and then 'Editor in Chief' for the newspaper 'Al Maseera' for the period (1991 - 1995).

From 1995 - 1999 he was 'Editor in Chief' and 'Director General' of 'Al Fidaa Foundation for Media Production'. Then Deputy Coordinator and General Coordinator of the 'National Service' for the period 1999 to 2001.

Another level of his executive work, was when he served as Minister of State for the Sudanese Foreign Ministry for the period 2011 - 2012, after which he was nominated as 'Ambassador' of the Republic of Sudan to Egypt and as a 'Permanent Representative' to the League of Arab States during the period 2012 to 2014.

For the period from 2014 to 2015, he occupied the position of 'State Minister' at the Sudanese Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs. After which he was entrusted with the task of leading the work at the 'Ministry of International Cooperation' in 2015 and 2016.

By the end of 2016 he was elected by the 'Arab Ministerial Council' to assume the position of 'Assistant Secretary-General' at the League of Arab States, where he is now heading 'The Economic Sector'.



Ms. Anna Bjerde,
Director, Strategy and
Operations, World Bank
Group

Ms. Anna Bjerde is the Director of Strategy and Operations in the Middle East and North Africa Region of the World Bank. In this position, she oversees strategy and work programs for the World Bank in the Region and is the deputy to the Vice President.

Over her career, Ms. Bjerde has worked extensively on the Middle East and North Africa and is an expert in energy sector policy and reform. Prior to joining the Middle East and North Africa Region, she held a similar position in the Sustainable Development Vice Presidency, encompassing agriculture, irrigation, climate change, environment and natural resources, social and urban development, and disaster risk management, energy and extractives, transport, digital development as well as water and sanitation. In this role, she oversaw a portfolio of about \$162 billion in development projects and programs delivered by over 2,000 staff across the Bank's country offices and HQ.

Ms. Bjerde has over 25 years of experience working in development in Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia and South Asia. Most of these years, she has focused on infrastructure policy and financing with a specific interest in low-carbon, inclusive and sustainable development.

Ms. Bjerde is an experienced leader and manager, with experience of overseeing large and decentralized workforces and country offices as well as forging strong bilateral and multilateral partnerships.

Ms. Bjerde has a master's in business and economics from the University of Stockholm.



H. E. Dr. Mohamed Shaker El-Markabi,

Chair of Executive Bureau of the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity, and Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt

Dr. Mohamed Shaker El-Markabi holds B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Electrical Power Engineering from Cairo University 1968 & 1972 respectively. Ph.D. & DIC in Electrical Engineering– Imperial College, London University 1978.

"Premium Award in Science and Technology" 1985 – Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) – London – U.K.

Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy – Egypt, Since March 2014. Founder and Chairman of the Electromechanical Consulting Engineering firm: "SHAKER Consulting Group" since 1982, and its subsidiaries in many of Arab and African Countries.

Electrical Consulting Professional Engineer with a track record of over 1500 projects in Egypt, Arabian Gulf countries & Africa, during over 40 years of engineering practice.

Chairman of the Consulting Engineers Qualifying Board – Egyptian Engineering syndicate. Chairman of the "Egyptian Fire Protection Association" (EFPA).

Board member of the following organizations at different periods:

- Energy Research Center – Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University.
- Electrical Code Committee – Housing and Building National Research Center – Egypt.
- New Urban Communities Authority – Ministry of Housing Utilities and Urban Communities, Egypt.
- Egyptian Railway Authority – Ministry of Transport.
- Egyptian Metro Operation and Management Company – Ministry of Transport.

Chairman of the Egyptian construction Export Council – Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Vice – chairman of the Egyptian consulting Engineers Forum.

Vice – chairman of the Egyptian Engineering Syndicate.

Vice – chairman of the Egyptian – Japanese Businessman Council.

Vice – chairman of Gezira Sporting Club, Cairo – Egypt