

## Meeting Speakers (in alphabetical order)



### **Ruba Al Asir**

is the Founder of Alsir Architects-Sustainable Solutions Office. She is a consultant in low energy and green architecture design and a part-time lecturer at several Jordanian universities. Her research focuses on building thermal performance. She has participated in the preparation and review of many national and international codes related to energy efficiency in buildings and green building guidelines. She graduated from Bartlett School of Graduate Studies/ UCL- UK, with an M.Sc. in the field of Environmental Design and Engineering. She is currently the head of Architectural green buildings committee (JEA) and a member of the National Green Building Council, Jordan GBC. She also serves on the board of the Jordanian Architect Society. Rula Al Asir is also the a founder, member, and vice Director General of Global Network for Renewable Energy Approaches in Desert Regions (GNREADER), and the .Editor-in-Chief of GNREADER Bulletin



### **Fayeze Al Batayneh**



### **Hazem M. Al Ramini**

holds a B.Sc. in Geology and Mineralogy and a High Diploma in Applied Geology from the University of Jordan. He is the head of the Policies and Contracts Division of the Petroleum and Oil Share Directorate. As such he carries out studies for open hydrocarbon exploration blocks and negotiates lease terms with international oil and gas companies. His areas of expertise include shale and carbonate source rock assessment, geothermal energy utilization, and exploration geochemistry.



### **Khalid Al-Walidi**

(Jordan) is an Electrical Linking Expert and the assistant to the Secretary General of the general eight electrical linkages. He coordinates project studies for renewable energy and energy integration with the national network. In addition, Khalid Al-Walidi is a member of the Jordanian technical committee for general nuclear energy stations, the Special Labor Committee for the electrical network around the Mediterranean, and the Sun Energy Project for the Middle East and Northern Africa.



### **Ahmad Al Azzam**

graduated from the Surrey Energy Economics Center in the UK. He has over 20 years of solid professional experience in the energy sector. His experience covers a range of expertise from private sector development, economic growth and econometric and financial modeling to the regulation and creation of regulatory bodies, designing technical assistance programs, developing operations guide for public regulatory bodies and compliance monitoring and enforcement procedures. He has a deep understanding of global energy issues including institutional environment for renewable energy, regulatory frameworks and policies regarding the development of local energy and mineral resources, reform of the legal and institutional energy sector framework, electricity demand & supply & policy. Dr. Azzam is an expert in Jordanian legislation, regulatory framework and policies of the energy sector in Jordan. Has prepared numerous reports and held presentations at the Council of Ministers, Parliament and intergovernmental bodies. He also gave significant number of presentations at regional and international levels. Currently he is leading the Estimation of Indicative Prices for Various Renewable Energy Sources in Jordan, a project financed by the World Bank.



### **Sala'ah M. Azzam**

is a member of Jordan Environment Society and Jordan Engineers Association.

Eng Azzam heads the Energy Research Program. He participated in drafting the Renewable Energy Strategy to the year 2020 and attended several courses in Renewable energy sources at the RENAC (Renewable Energy Academy in Germany). He conducted several studies on increasing the share of Renewable Energy and adding new resources.

Accredited as a trainer by United Nations Development Program in Amman (UNDP AMMAN) in the field of Biomass and Waste management, environmental studies including GHG's reduction, bio-energy studies, like biogas, biomass, biodiesel. Eng Azzam earned his M.Sc in Mechanical Engineering from Jordan University of Science and Technology in the year 1994.



### **Marwan Baka'in**

is a Director of the Directorate of Natural Gas at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in Jordan.

Marwan played an important role in successfully bringing gas to Jordan and establishing the first and second phases of the regionally vital Arab Gas Pipeline. Marwan participated in driving and managing this project from initial feasibility and concept in 2001 to financial close in 2004. Construction of the Arab Gas Pipeline is now a reality and started delivering gas to Jordan since 2003, and further extensions to Syria, Lebanon have been completed.

In 2007, HRH Majesty King Abdullah II, granted Marwan the Independence Medal for his effort which led to the success of the natural gas pipeline project. Marwan represents the Government of Jordan in the committees formed by the countries involved in the Arab Gas Pipeline Project (AGPP) and the European Union to work on creating a regional market to be integrated with the European market in the future by linking the AGPP with the Turkish gas Grid and the Nabucco Pipeline Project. Marwan is also a member of Board of Directors of Samra Electricity Power Generating Power Company



### **Boumédiène Benyoucef**

is the Director of the Department of Physics at Abou Bekr Belkaid University in Tlemcen, Algeria. He holds an Engineering degree from Electronique Ecole Nationale Polytechnique and a Ph.D. from Université Pierre et Marie Curie Paris. He is a member of the Scientific Council of the Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables and has extensive research experience. His findings have been published in numerous international journals including the *Revue Internationale des Energies Renouvelables*, the *International Scientific Journal of Thermal Sciences* and the *Journal for Alternative Energy and Ecology*.



### **May M. Chen**

is currently a research fellow at ICCS in Taipei. She received her LL.M in International and European Laws from the University of Liverpool, UK. Her research focuses on China's economic policy/ development. She has written a number of articles for the *Studies on Chinese Communism*, a monthly journal, and the journal's Yearly Report, including "The Development and Facing Situation of China's Foreign Trade", "Chinese Economy 2008", "The Analysis of Recent Cross-Strait Relations", "Chinese Economy 2009", "Development of the Cross-Strait Relationships after the Effectiveness of the ECFA" and on "Chinese Economy 2010".



### **Patrice Dreiski**

took up his duties with the Energy Charter Secretariat to Brussels in September 2010 as Senior Expert to the private Office of the Secretary General. He is in charge of the Accession to the 1991 Energy Charter and 1994 Energy Charter Treaty. He is developing the relations with the non-signatories countries in order to enable the expansion of the Energy Charter Process. Prior to this assignment, he worked for the economic and environmental dimension of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to the Vienna-based Secretariat. He has been developing economic projects in order to improve and strengthen the economic situation in protracted conflicts areas, including promoting and developing regional cooperation within the OSCE participating states, particularly through the Central Asia, Caucasus and Balkans. Previously, he was Deputy High Representative for Economic matters to the Office of the High Representative of the International Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2002), working with Wolfgang Petritsch and then Paddy Ashdown, High Representatives and EU Special Representatives. Between 2000 and 2002, he served as the financial counselor to the French delegation at OECD. He has served in various assignments within the French Ministry for Economy and Finance; he was member of the Industry and foreign trade Minister Cabinet Office. In this capacity, he has been dealing with industry investments, energy issues and human resources. He graduated in Economics and Business Management from the Conservatoire National des Arts ET Métiers, and Law from Pantheon University-Paris.



### **Arzu Celalifer Ekinci**

is a researcher on Middle East and Energy Studies at the International Strategic Research Organization (USAK). She is the assisting editor of Review of International Law and Politics. Beside this, she writes comments and articles in her columns both in the “Journal of Turkish Weekly” and “Usak Startejik Gündem”. Ekinci is also the General Secretary of International Law Association (ILA), Turkish branch. She is an adjunct professor in the International Relations Department of Hacettepe University where she teaches courses on Middle East Politics. Prior to joining the USAK in 2005, Ekinci spent a few years working with other NGOs. She was responsible for International Relations in the Foundation for Children with Leukemia. Later she was coordinator of the Iran and Afghanistan project at the Anatolian Development Foundation. She holds a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations from Ankara University, received both a master and a doctorate degrees on European Union - International Relations. Her thesis was titled “The Role of the EU in the Iranian Nuclear Crisis”. Ekinci is the author of two books and many articles especially focused on Iranian nuclear crisis. Her areas of expertise are the European Union studies, Middle East, Iranian politics and energy security. Currently she is conducting a project on ‘Critical Energy Infrastructure Protection in Turkey’.



### **Dia El-Din Ahmed El Quosy**

is the Advisor to the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt. He formerly served as chairman of the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Deputy Chairman of the National Water Research Center, Director of the Channel Maintenance Research Institute, Director of Engineering at Mohamed Al-Sabek Architects and Consulting Engineers (Saudi Arabia), Consultant to the World Bank in the North Sinai Development Project, and a Consultant to the UNDP in the investigation of irrigation and drainage problems in Aljufra Area (Libya) among other positions. He was elected Vice President of the International Commission of Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) (1998-2001) and is a member of the Egyptian Syndicate for Engineers and of the Egyptian National Commission of Irrigation and Drainage. In 1979 he received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Aston in Birmingham, UK, after obtaining a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Assiout University in Egypt in 1963. He has authored and co-authored on topics including climate change, desalination, and renewable energy.



### **Jennifer Giroux**

specializes in research that examines the contemporary characteristics of violent non-state actors and their targeting behaviors with a regional focus on North and sub-Saharan Africa. Her current project looks specifically at global trends in energy infrastructure (EI) targeting and within this work she is developing a comprehensive database that collects and categorizes information on threats to the energy sector. In addition, she performs research on societal resilience, critical infrastructure protection (CIP), and the role of information technology in emergency/crisis planning and response.

Prior experience includes working with the United Nations, Center for Terrorism and Intelligence Studies (CETIS) and Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS). She holds a B.A. in Anthropology and M.A. in International Policy with additional training in counter-terrorism studies, conflict resolution, mediation and partnering.



### **Mazen Mohammad Ghassab Khalifa**

is the National Energy Coordinator at the Department of General statistics. He holds a masters degree in Economics & Political Science, he has extensive experience supervising and researching energy surveys. He has worked as a technical supervisor at various facilities, including a field supervisor for the Department of Economical Surveys and Family Surveys.





### **Gal Luft**

is executive director of the Institute for the Analysis of Global Security (IAGS) a Washington based think tank focused on energy security. He specializes in strategy, geopolitics, energy security and natural resources. Newsweek Magazine called him a «tireless and independent advocate of energy security,» the business Magazine Poder called him «one of the most recognizable figures in modern energy and security issues,» and Esquire Magazine included him in its 2007 list of America's Best and Brightest. Dr. Luft has published numerous studies and articles on security and energy issues in various newspapers and publications such as Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, The American Interest, Commentary Magazine, Middle East Quarterly, LA Times, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal. He is co-author of Energy Security Challenges for the 21st Century(2009) and Turning Oil Into Salt: Energy Independence Through Fuel Choice (2009). He is author of Beer, Bacon and Bullets: Culture in Coalition Warfare from Gallipoli to Iraq. He appears frequently in the media and consults to various think tanks and news organizations worldwide. He holds degrees in international relations, international economics, Middle East studies and strategic studies and a doctorate in strategic studies from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS,) Johns Hopkins University.

### **Kholoud Mahasneh,**

A Chemical Engineer graduated from the University of Jordan, she is currently the Director of Industrial Energy department in the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Her duties in this department is to manage all issues related to downstream petroleum sector in the kingdom including security supply of crude oil and petroleum products, development of the sector infrastructure and Regulate all its activities. During her career history, she occupied the following positions:

1. Technical advisor for the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
2. Head of Industrial Liaison division at Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in Jordan
3. Research Engineer, Investment Promotion Division at Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in Jordan
4. Chemical Engineer/ team leader Analyst, Minerals labs, Oil shale labs at Natural Resources Authority in Jordan



### **Robin Mills**

is an expert on Middle East energy economics. For the last five years, he has worked for Dubai government companies on energy investments and project developments. Before that, he spent a decade in business development and economics roles for Shell, with particular focus on the Middle East and former Soviet Union, and was described as the “Shell expert on Iran”. He is the author of two books, “The Myth of the Oil Crisis” (Praeger, 2008) and “Capturing Carbon” (Columbia University Press/Hurst, 2011), the first comprehensive overview of carbon capture and storage for the non-specialist. He comments regularly in the media, including Bloomberg, BBC World, Sky News and others, as well as writing a weekly column in Abu Dhabi's leading English-language newspaper The National.

Robin holds an MA (First class) in Geological Sciences from Cambridge University. A native English speaker, he speaks Arabic and Farsi, as well as Dutch and Norwegian.



### **Aiman Abdelaziz Salama**

is a professor of International Law and International Relations at Cairo University. He holds a doctorate of Public International Law from Alexandria University, an International Diploma of Humanitarian Assistance from Fordham University, New York, A Postgraduate Diploma in Crisis Management from Ein Shams University, A Postgraduate Diploma in Human Rights and Civil Society from Cairo University, a Masters in Public Relations from Cairo University, a diploma in the Law of Armed Conflicts from the International Committee of Red Cross, a License of Law from Zagig University and a Bachelor of Military Sciences from the Military Academy in Cairo. He was awarded the NATO medal of International Peacekeeping in 1998 and the Italian medal of International Peacekeeping in 2000. His publications include The Status of UN Peacekeeping Force (1998), and Post-Conflict Justice Mechanism in the Arab World Since 1945 (2008). He has previously taught at the Egyptian Ministries of Interior, Defense, and Local Development.



### **Mamdouh G Salameh**

is an international oil economist, a consultant for the World Bank in Washington DC on oil & energy and also a technical expert with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna. He has a doctorate in Economics specializing in the economics & geopolitics of oil & energy.

Dr Salameh is currently the Director of the Oil Market Consultancy Service in the UK. He has written three books on oil and has presented research papers to numerous international energy conferences around the world on the economics & geopolitics of oil & energy and has also been frequently invited to lecture on these topics at universities around the world. He regularly appears on TV to discuss oil prices and other developments in the global oil market. Dr Salameh is a member of many international institutes and associations around the world including the International Association for Energy Economics in the US, the British Institute for Energy Economics & the International Energy Foundation in Canada.



### **Ahmad Shikara**

has been a member of the faculty at the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR) in Abu Dhabi since 2000. There he works in the Training Department and in Human Resources. He recently published on the ramifications of Iraqi elections.

In the past he conducted extensive research at the ECSSR and has conducted graduate and faculty seminars focusing on the effect of resource scarcity on the Persian Gulf and the United States. Before joining the ECSSR, he served on the faculty of the Political Science Department at the United Arab Emirates University (1980-1994), as an honorary professor at the Institute of Developing Economies in Japan (1994) and as a research fellow in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Auckland, New Zealand (1996-2000).