



For Immediate Release: Thursday, 17 October 2013

**NEW GLOBAL LEADERS TO JOIN WORLD ISLAMIC ECONOMIC FORUM IN LONDON**

The WIEF Foundation is pleased to announce that 17 Global Leaders, including the Prime Minister of Malaysia and Patron of the WIEF, the Honorable Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, have confirmed their participation at the 9th World Islamic Economic Forum, which will meet at Excel, London on 29-31 October 2013. London is the first non-Muslim capital to welcome this prestigious annual event.

**The 17 Leaders attending the Forum are as follows:**

- H.E. Dato' Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Patron of the WIEF Foundation & Prime Minister of Malaysia
- Senior Cabinet Minister from United Kingdom Government
- H.M. Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei
- H.M. King Abdullah II of Jordan
- H.E. Hamid Karzai, President of Afghanistan
- H.E. Atifete Jahjaga, President of Kosovo
- H.E. Md. Abdul Hamid, President of Bangladesh
- H.E. Bakir Izetbegovic, Member of the Presidency, Bosnia & Herzegovina
- H.E. Abdelilah Benkirane, Prime Minister of Morocco
- H.E. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan
- H.E. Ali Babacan, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey
- H.E. Dr Rowsch Nuri Shaways, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq
- H. E. Asset Issekeshov, Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan
- H.E. Craig Cannonier, Premier of Bermuda
- H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Crown Prince of Bahrain
- H.E. Dr Ahmad Mohamed Ali, Honorary Fellow of WIEF Foundation & President, Islamic Development Bank

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales will grace the Gala Dinner and deliver a Special Address as Guest of Honour on 29th October.

Also participating will be the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

**5 Central Bank Governors have also confirmed their participation:**

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- H.E. Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Governor, Bank Negara Malaysia (The Central Bank of Malaysia), Malaysia
- H.E. Hamood Sangour Al Zadjali, The Executive President, Central Bank of Oman, Sultanate of Oman
- H.E. Abdulla Mohammed Saleh, Governor, Dubai International Financial Centre, United Arab Emirates
- H.E. Mallam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi (CON), Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- H.E. Sultan Bin Nasser Al Suwaidi, Governor, Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates

Prominent Speakers and participants attending the Forum include more than 10 Ministers and more than 1,800 CEOs, academic scholars, regional experts, health professionals, corporate managers, business leaders, policy makers, innovators and investors from more than 120 countries.

With more than 200 Role-players, 11 plenary sessions including 3 panel each for youth and women and 11 master classes altogether covering more than 22 topics including 6 topics on Islamic finance plus 6 special programmes, 6 sponsor programmes, 5 invest programmes, 27 expo booths, 6 MOU exchanges, 13 press conferences, a MOCAfest, a British Business Pavilion, a Gala Dinner and numerous Business Networking opportunities, the 9th WIEF promised to be a huge multi layered gathering dedicated to the promotion of business and economic collaboration for the benefit of all participants.

Business leaders from banks, infrastructure, technology, design and media companies from countries including China, UAE, Malaysia, USA, UK, South Africa, Japan, and Indonesia, as well as health and education experts will take part. Some organisations represented include Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, London Stock Exchange Group, Xenel Group, World Health Organisation, Halal Food Festival, Jaguar Landrover, Saudi Economic Development Company, JS Comsa Corporation, BDA China, Denari Architects, Atikins Plc, Open Urban, Thomson Reuters, Seedrs, Rabia Z, Aga Khan Development Network, The Khana Group for West Africa, Crescentrating, Gatehouse Bank, Maybank Islamic, Hong Leong Islamic Bank and Central Bank of Malaysia.

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Malaysia, as a leading Islamic finance hub, will be represented by industry leaders including Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Governor of the Central Bank of Malaysia, Raja Teh Maimunah Raja Abdul Aziz, Advisor on Islamic Finance and Banking for WIEF Foundation and CEO of Hong Leong Islamic Bank, Muzaffar Hisham, CEO of Maybank Islamic and Daud Vicary Abdullah, President & CEO of the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) among others.

Other local champions representing Malaysia's international success are Tan Sri Dato' Azman bin Haji Mokhtar, Khazanah Nasional, Datuk Badlisham Ghazali, CEO and Non-Independent Director of the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) and Jamil Bidin, CEO, Halal Development Corporation (HDC).

The 9th WIEF will offer an opportunity to network with our major sponsors including; Maybank Islamic, Khazanah Nasional, The Coca Cola Company, Battersea Power Station, Dubai Chamber, Iskandar Investment Bhd, Felda Global Ventures Holdings Sdn Bhd, Islamic Development Bank, United Malayan Land Bhd and Bahrain Economic Development Board. PricewaterhouseCoopers has also joined the 9th WIEF as a knowledge partner.

Issues covered at the Forum include harnessing the potential of women as critical growth drivers, harmonising Islamic and Western banking, exploring the export potential for high quality education in developing economies, and developing technological collaboration between Islamic and European economies. The event warmly welcomes participation from the Muslim and non- Muslim world.

**Chairman of the WIEF, the Hon Tun Musa Hitam, said:** "This is the first time that the WIEF is held in a non-Muslim European capital. The choice of this vibrant, cosmopolitan, yet ancient city is no coincidence. London is home to a vast multicultural population and a great gateway for trade and commerce, finance, culture, ideas and philosophy, to name a few. Organising the WIEF in London represents our first step in promoting direct engagement in Europe as much as with it. It is also a continuation of our efforts to build bridges worldwide through business for the greater good of mankind."



**The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said:** "It is an immense honour that the World Islamic Economic Forum has chosen London for its first gathering outside of Asia. As London demonstrated last year, we can stage world-class events with flair whilst providing a warm, friendly welcome to international visitors. Hosting this prestigious conference also presents huge opportunities to promote London as a world beating business hub, highlighting our status as a major centre of Islamic finance and as a compelling destination for foreign investors."

### **MOCAfest**

An additional attraction at the Forum is the MOCAfest. Hosted as part of the 9th WIEF, the MOCAfest will meet for two days of performances, master-classes, networking sessions and collaborations on 30-31 October at the Excel Centre, London.

Free and open to the public, and featuring more than 30 artists from a diverse range of genres, MOCAfest will explore the role that art and culture plays in driving economic growth and business collaboration between East and West. The festival will also showcase some of the most exciting new talents from across the globe including Malaysia, Algeria, Pakistan, Denmark, the US, Singapore, the UK, the Netherlands and Bosnia & Herzegovina.

### **Some of the sessions at the MOCAfest are:**

- Strings of the Muslim World: Learning the Oud, Kora and Sitar
- Through Lens: What Photography Can Teach Us about our World
- Discussion on Muslim Films - "Children of Sarajevo"
- International Film Showcase : Spirit of Modernity & Being Muslim
- Curating the Future: Integrating Ideas, Design, Arts and the World We Deserve
- Poetry for the Soul-A Millenia of Inspiration
- Utilising the Power of Public Arts: Learning from the Street Artist

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### **For further information please visit [www.9thwief.org](http://www.9thwief.org) or contact:**

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