

FOSTERING COLLABORATION

Gaenor Jones reflects on the CII's work in the Middle East at the end of 2024



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH
THE FINANCIAL ACADEMY
OF KSA HAS GONE FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Welcome to our Middle East dedicated newsletter! I'm pleased to bring you a wealth of updates from the region.

Our International Professional Partner Firm initiative continues to gather pace and we have welcomed several prominent insurance/financial planning companies over the past few months, all of whom have demonstrated their commitment to upskilling their employees by encouraging CII qualifications attainment and an adherence to CII ethics.

The CII relies on close collaboration with the region's key regulators to boost professional standards, so we are delighted to report that we have been working diligently throughout the region on strengthening and growing these relationships. In particular, our relationship with the Financial Academy of KSA has gone from strength to strength; they are now one of our Approved Professional Development Centres (APDC) and we are working on several other initiatives.

I am also pleased to report that the Middle East office was recently visited by CII President, Ian Callaghan, as well as our Executive Director, Member Engagement and Learning, Gill White, and our General Counsel, Liam Russell. Our conversations revolved around fostering relationships in the region and ensuring that our regional members continue to receive outstanding membership benefits and support with their continued professional development.

I hope you benefit from this update, and I wish you a successful and prosperous run up to the end of 2024.

Kind regards

Gaenor Jones
Regional Director – Middle East

Gaenor Jones, Regional Director of the CII, Middle East

UAE

NEW COHORT AT EIF TO ATTAIN CII QUALIFICATIONS

A partnership agreement between the CII and the Emirates Institute of Finance (EIF) has entered a new phase, as a new cohort of students begin their studies to attain our Award in General Insurance, a mandatory unit that needs to be completed for certification. This follows the successful completion of learning and qualifications attainment by a previous cohort who have now been awarded the CII's Award in Underwriting and Award in Claims Handling that form part of the pathway to our Certificate in Insurance. The EIF has operated in the UAE for over 38 years, from three campuses located in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah. It offers specialised education and training to individuals looking to develop personal and professional skills for those embarking on a career in the Banking and Financial Sectors.



OMAN

A NEW GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FROM OMAN

We are delighted to welcome Adil Hasan Al Lawati as our new Goodwill Ambassador in Oman. Adil currently serves as the Group CEO of RMS Insurance Brokers, Middle East, Oman's first registered insurance broker, with operations extending to the UAE and Qatar. He holds the coveted ACII membership designation, which can only be displayed by current members of the CII. He brings with him over 30 years of experience in the insurance and risk management industry.

Goodwill Ambassadors are esteemed insurance professionals who further the CII's mission to boost professional standards via their networks and stakeholder relationships.



MIDDLE EAST

DIRECTORS VISIT MIDDLE EAST, MEET STAKEHOLDERS

Our Executive Director, Member Engagement and Learning, Gill White, paid a recent visit to the Middle East region, accompanied by General Counsel, Liam Russell. They - along with Regional Director, Gaenor Jones - met with some of our key stakeholders, including The Central Bank of the UAE's Insurance Authority, and our Goodwill Ambassador representing Egypt, Gamal Sakr (ACII). Their conversations focused on strengthening our relationship with the Egyptian regulator, and Gamal was presented with a CII certificate of appreciation.

Gill's attendance at the Financial Academy Forum 2024 in Riyadh, held at the KAFD Conference Centre, was key element of her visit to the region. Gill was a guest panellist in the session entitled, "The Role Of Training & Development in Navigating Sustainability".



MIDDLE EAST

CII MIDDLE EAST WINS MIDDLE EAST INSURANCE INDUSTRY AWARD

The CII Middle East has won the "Educational & Training Initiative" award at the Middle East Insurance Industry Awards. Our Regional Director, Gaenor Jones was delighted to collect the prestigious accolade which recognises outstanding contributions to the insurance sector's professional development ambitions. In her acceptance speech she thanked all of the regulators, stakeholders, corporate organisations and individuals from the region who continue to work closely with us to raise professional standards by upholding best practice and encouraging the attainment of internationally recognised qualifications.



DUBAI

PRESIDENT IAN CALLAGHAN VISITS THE DUBAI OFFICE

The Dubai office team were delighted to recently welcome the current President of the CII, Ian Callaghan. Ian met with Regional Director Gaenor Jones, Corporate Development Manager, Gary Burns and Operations Assistant, Irina Ginns to discuss the wealth of opportunities being created as the market continues to mature across the region. A key topic of conversation was our collaboration with key stakeholders and corporate organisations.



SAUDI ARABIA

KSA'S FINANCIAL ACADEMY AWARDED APPROVED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES STATUS

The CII's relationship with Saudi Arabia's Financial Academy, has been elevated to a new level with a new accreditation award which will see the organisation become one of the CII's coveted Approved Professional Development Centres (APDCs) in the Kingdom. These are training centres which meet the strict criteria laid out by the CII to ensure the consistent and professional delivery of learning and exam-taking so that students can attain CII accredited international qualifications. They ensure credible and competent tutors, efficient management systems and stellar student support services.



MIDDLE EAST

INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL PARTNER FIRMS FLOURISH

Companies in the region who show a committed approach to supporting their employees' professional development through the attainment of CII qualifications are eligible to become International Professional Partner Firms. Some of the corporates enjoying this status are Arma, City Marine and AES, who have joined prominent organisations, Lockton, Braxtone, Chedid Re, Fidelity, AHR Group and Gargash. If you're interested in joining, please reach out to enquiries-me@cii.co.uk



GLOBAL

DESIGNATIONS EXCLUSIVE TO MEMBERSHIP: CHECK YOUR STATUS

Becoming a member of the CII provides a wealth of benefits, including the ability to use CII membership designations after your name. If your membership lapses, the use of the designation – which is a trademark of the CII – is not permissible or valid. To ensure that you can continue to use the CII designation after your name, please ensure that your membership is renewed annually.