



Spearheading digital innovation and cross-border payments: The Arab CBDC Conference

Thursday 7 October 2021 at 15:00 Abu Dhabi / 12:00 UK

15:00-15:15	<p>Welcome and Keynote Speech</p> <p>Abdulrahman Al Hamidy, Director General Chairman of the Board, Arab Monetary Fund</p> <p>Phil Middleton, Chairman, OMFIF Digital Monetary Institute</p>
15:15-16:30	<p>Panel I: National retail payment strategies and the fintech expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in global trade trends and the shift to fintech • Consumer trends and decline of cash-dominated economies • Combatting financial exclusion and addressing different sector needs • The fintech landscape and the shift from a bank centric model • Expansion of instant payment systems; the need for retail CBDC and building on legacy systems <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Rami Abul Naga, Deputy Governor, Central bank of Egypt</p> <p>Bader Al Aghbari, Vice President, Central Bank of Oman</p> <p>Wolfram Seidemann, CEO, G+D Currency Technology</p> <p>Salvador Perez-Galindo, VP of Government Engagement, Central Europe, Middle East & Africa, Visa</p> <p>Moderator: Phil Middleton, Chairman, OMFIF Digital Monetary Institute</p>
16:30-16:45	<p>BREAK</p>
16:45-17:00	<p>Presentation: Payments Innovation in the Arab region from a private sector perspective</p> <p>Abdulwahid Janahi, Chief Executive, BENEFIT Bahrain</p>
17:00-18:00	<p>Panel II: Evolution in Arab financial markets – Next steps for legacy systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Buna and intra-regional payments • Creating an integrated Arab financial market through innovation • Overcoming remittances and correspondent banking challenges • Regional RTGS upgrades <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mehdi Manaa, Chief Executive Officer, Buna</p> <p>Bernard Ferran, General Manager, Euroclear</p> <p>Maha Bahou, Chief Executive Officer, JoPACC</p> <p>Alexandre Mouradian, Vice Governor, Banque du Liban</p> <p>Moderator: Habib Attia, Senior Specialist, Financial Sector, Arab Monetary Fund</p>

18:00-19:00	<p>Panel III: Wholesale CBDCs and cross border payments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholesale CBDCs and transformation of interbank settlements • Tackling frictions within legacy systems with new technologies • Ensuring interoperability and standardisation • The role of private sector settlement instruments <p>Speakers: James O'Brien, Head of Regulatory Development, Central Bank of the U.A.E. Sara Castelhana, Managing Director, EMEA Head of Payments & Solutions, J.P. Morgan Phantom Seokgu Yun, CEO, Sovereign Wallet Network Koji Fusa, CEO, GVE</p> <p>Moderator: John Orchard, CEO, OMFIF</p>
19:00-19:30	<p>Keynote in-conversation: The crypto-asset landscape</p> <p>Emmanuel Givanakis, CEO Financial Services Regulatory Authority, ADGM, UAE</p> <p>Moderator: Katie-Ann Wilson, Head of Policy Analysis, OMFIF Digital Monetary Institute</p>
19:30-19:40	<p>Closing Remarks</p>