

Under the Patronage of

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai



**Annual Investment Meeting** 

A Future International Economic Landscape in the Making, Implications on FDI and the Economic Growth Prospects of Frontier & Emerging Markets

April 30 - May 2, 2013

Dubai International Convention & Exhibition Centre Dubai, United Arab Emirates www.aimcongress.com

Corporate Partners



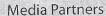
Host City Partner









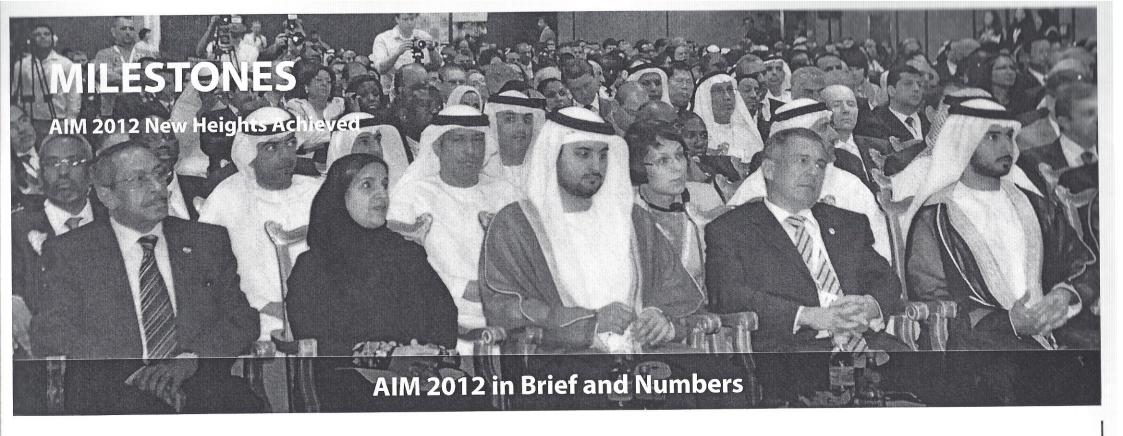












AIM 2012 offered a variety of features aimed at facilitating strategic networking while providing a worthwhile learning experience.

- Millions of US\$ worth of transactions in 2012
- 1 President & 28 Ministers
- 3300 square meters
- 2850 visitors
- 103 exhibitors
- 69 countries
- 380 organizations
- 35 corporate partners

- 112 media partners
- 40 Investment Promotion Agencies
- A conference with 3 thematic sessions
- 20 country presentations
- 196 G2G meetings
- 642 B2B meetings
- A workshop for a top notch learning experience
- A site visit to centres of excellence



HE Rustam Minnikhanov,

President of the Republic of Tatarstan, The Russian Federation

There is no doubt that this Forum will play an important role in stimulating global investment and we were pleased to participate in it.



## HE Dr. Hage Geingob,

Minister of Industry & Trade, Namibia

centres of finance and capital in the world

On behalf of my delegation, I would like to thank Dubai for leading this Annual Investors Forum (AIM) initiative, as it links entrepreneurs, businesses promoters



Ms. Patricia Francis,

Executive Director International Trade Centre (ITC), Switzerland

To boost regional trade, the Arab states will have to diversify and take better advantage of the human resources they

have available. More specifically, they will have to make better use of their women and young people.

and investors. Let me use this opportunity to highlight the importance of trade between Namibia and the UAE in particular Dubai. Dubai is indeeed recognized as the most globally advanced trade and logistics hub.



## Message from HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi

## Minister of Foreign Trade, United Arab Emirates



Message from HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi Minister of Foreign Trade, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Dear participants of the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM),

The 2013 Annual Investment Meeting comes at a time when the state of the global economy is such that it is starting to impact the growth prospects of so many countries around the globe including emerging and developing countries. The drop in global demand and prices for export commodities and decreasing remittances caused a decline in production, employment and income levels in a large number of countries. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Economic Outlook for 2012, average global growth is expected to be weak around 3.5 per cent with advanced economies growing at an average of 1.4 per cent only. However, developing

economies are expected to grow at 5.6 per cent with China at 8 per cent, India 6.1 per cent and the Middle-East & North Africa at 5.5 per cent. The long-term shift in economic weight at the global level is taking its course unhindered as emerging and developing countries are becoming the growth engines for the world economy.

As to investment, we are equally observing major shifts and significant changes in the source, direction and flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). According to UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2012, global FDI flows in 2011 exceeded the pre-crisis average reaching US\$1.5 trillion despite the major difficulties the world economy was undergoing. While FDI in 2011 increased across all major economic groupings, the developing world accounted for 45 per cent of global flows. Today, emerging economies are, not only major recipients of FDI but also, major sources of investment thus confirming the emergence of a new international economic landscape where the global centre of gravity is moving gradually eastward as well as a new geography of investment. Alongside these shifts we are also witnessing significant changes in global economic and investment policies. Uncertainties in financial markets, reduced trade prospects, global imbalances and the overall negative effects of one of the most severe financial and economic crises, the Great Recession of 2007-2009, have brought new thinking. A myriad of new policies are emerging to foster investment, job creation and competitiveness in line with development strategies. They are policies that support strong, sustainable and balanced growth by reducing global imbalances and promoting international development.

In light of the above, the theme of the third edition of the Annual Investment Meeting will focus on the Future International Economic Landscape that is emerging and its implications on FDI and growth in frontier & emerging markets. It will highlight the benefits that can be derived from enabling policies and new trends in certain areas such as fiscal policies and double taxation treaties, investment incentives or mergers & acquisitions (M&As). It will also emphasize investment and trading opportunities in frontier and emerging markets in particular in high growth sectors.

As we have seen in the first two editions, AIM has proved to be a winning formula and a transparent and inclusive platform that draws the views of governments, the private sector, relevant multilateral institutions and civil society. In essence, this is the mission of the event, to provide all participants from the public & private sectors with an exclusive environment to discuss, exchange views and experiences and above all, it is the occasion to strike business agreements, draft MoU's and ratify PPP & PFT agreements in a drive for concrete and tangible results.

The third edition of AIM promises to be a rich and unique experience, which will include inspiring talks from keynote speakers and discussions in a thought leadership conference, a Tripartite High-Level Meeting, country presentations, an exhibition, site visits and networking events all juxtaposed with cultural happenings in a Gala Dinner & an Investment Awards Ceremony. The conference will provide, not only an in-depth analysis of global trade and investment trends and major policy developments therein, but it will also feature a series of sessions focusing on policy responses to reignite growth, foreign investment policies, strategies and objectives of sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) and fiscal policies and investment incentives in a fiercely competitive world. It will also highlight trends in double taxation treaties and their impact on FDI, M&As as well as current best practice investment promotion strategies in a time of recession and success stories therein. To recognize the excellence of some of these strategies and best investment projects, new AIM Awards will be granted to select Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs). A special focus will be made on investment in specific regions such as in Africa, the new frontier and in Asia, the global pole of economic growth as well as an investment day in the United Arab Emirates with the exceptional presence of Highflyers, the crown jewels of the country's dynamic and thriving private sector.

A new feature introduced in AIM 2013 third edition is the Tripartite High-Level Meeting involving major stakeholders of the international trade and investment community such as senior policy makers, business executives, representatives of multilateral agencies as well as world renowned experts from research centres and academia. It will be the occasion to discuss and debate the serious challenges emerging and developing countries are facing in these uncertain times. Our mission is to drive for greater exchanges and dialogue to, not only identify common solutions but also, create improved coordination and policy coherence through concerted efforts to stimulate trade and investment and improve collaboration and regional cooperation.

Also, countries participating in AIM 2013 will have the opportunity to exhibit information on their investment opportunities and conditions within the framework of a first class exhibition area of more than 3000 square metres, but can also make actual country presentations in special sessions embedded in the programme of the conference itself, as well as B2B and B2G meetings, all facilitated by AIM Organizing Committee.

As the principal host of the event, the UAE Ministry of Foreign Trade will be honoured to welcome you all to participate in AIM 2013 and benefit from its valuable, rich and diversified features. At a time of persistent world economic uncertainties and pressing political, social and environmental challenges, frontier and emerging markets need to get together as often as possible to explore ways and means to address some of these challenges in a search for common solutions through fresh thinking, better coordination and deeper regional cooperation and collaboration. AIM is undoubtedly the right forum at hand and we are looking forward to greeting you in the UAE and in the beautiful city of Dubai in 2013.