



ALISSA AMICO
MANAGING DIRECTOR

PROFILE

Alissa Amico is an internationally recognised expert in emerging markets, specialising in corporate governance, capital market regulation, privatization and state-owned enterprises. Alissa was responsible for launching the OECD's regional project in the Middle East and North Africa in 2005, developing and subsequently managing a programme on governance in the region. In this role, she has worked closely with Ministers, heads of stock exchanges, capital market regulators, and central banks and the private sector on supporting national priorities. Notably, she has been closely involved in the development of national corporate governance and capital markets laws and regulations and institutions in a number of emerging markets including notably in MENA and CIS countries. She has also advised boards and executives of emerging market companies on a range of governance and strategy reforms. Alissa is also a widely-published author, including books and articles on corporate governance, capital markets development, sovereign governance and private sector development. She is a sought after speaker, regularly invited to contribute to conferences, debates and training workshops. For her unique influence in advancing good governance in the MENA region, she was distinguished as a Corporate Governance Rising Star by the Columbia University.

EXPERIENCE

Founder, GOVERN, Economic and Corporate Governance Center, Paris and Dubai, 2015

Programme Manager, Middle East and North Africa, Corporate Affairs Division, OECD, 2008-present, Paris

Programme Coordinator, Private Sector Development Division, OECD, 2005-2008, Paris

Strategy Consultant, Strategy and Operations Consulting, Deloitte and Touche and Arthur Andersen, 2001- 2004, Toronto

SELECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Founded an economic governance think-tank GOVERN based in Paris and Dubai focused on emerging markets in 2015

Led the creation of a Middle East and North Africa department at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in 2005

Established an internationally recognised project with high level policymakers and private sector leaders on corporate governance and financial market development in the MENA region at the OECD in 2008

Solicited and involved in the preparation of national corporate governance codes, regulations and laws (Morocco, Egypt, Bahrain, etc.) and supported the establishment of institutions promoting the governance agenda in the MENA region (UAE, Oman, Egypt, etc.)

Advised governments on policy reforms to adhere to international standards and advised governments (Russia, etc.) on accession negotiations to international organisations

Recognised author and researcher on financial markets and governance issues, regular contributor to local and international media as well as a range of journals and publications

Regular contributor to international media including Project Syndicate, Washington Post, Gulf News and leading blogs such as the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation and others

EDUCATION

MSc International Political Economy, London School of Economics (LSE), with Merit, London, 2005, specialisation Political Economy of the Middle East

Bachelor of Business Administration, York University, Schulich School of Business, with Honours, Toronto, 2002, specialisation in Strategy

LEADERSHIP AND AWARDS

Corporate Governance Rising Star, Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership, Columbia University, 2014

Member of the Board, various conferences (i.e. Saudi Arabia Compliance and AML Seminar), 2013-present

Participant in the Fifth Annual Yale Writers' Conference, 2016

International Commission Member, French Institute of Directors, 2011-present

Member of the Editorial Board, Journal of Asia Pacific Business, 2014-present

President, Alumni Chapter, York University, Paris, 2006-present

Thought Leader in Europe and Middle East, Center for Sustainability and Excellence, 2011

Research Fellow, Global Development Network, 2007-2010

Member of the Editorial Board, 'Millennium' International Relations Journal, LSE, 2004-2005

SELECT CONFERENCES

International Institute of Finance Annual Conference, Dubai, 2016 (speaker)

Egypt Capital Markets Roundtable, New York, 2016 (organizer and chair)

Governance Risk and Compliance Seminar, Riyadh, 2016 (moderator)

Federation of Arab Stock Exchanges Annual Conference, Amman, Beirut 2015- 2017 (moderator, speaker)

GCC Regulators Summit, Abu Dhabi, 2016 (speaker)

Emirates Foundation Youth Summit, Abu Dhabi, 2015 (moderator)

Certification of Directors Programme, Casablanca, 2014 (trainer)

GCC Regulators Summit, Abu Dhabi, 2015 (speaker)

Pearl Initiative Inaugural Conference, Dubai, 2015 (speaker)

Hawkamah regional corporate governance conference, Dubai, 2014 (moderator)

Arab Capital Markets Conference, Dubai, 2014 (speaker)

Ministerial workshop on economic planning in Egypt, Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, New York, 2013 (speaker)

Workshop with Lebanese CMA, Beirut, 2013 (chair)

Workshop with Casablanca Stock Exchange, Casablanca, 2012 (chair)

Regional roundtables with heads of stock exchanges and securities regulators, Paris, 2011, Istanbul, 2012, Muscat, 2013 (chair)

Regional roundtables on governance of state-owned companies, Cairo, 2010; Rabat, 2011; Kuwait City, 2012; Istanbul, 2013 (chair)

Le Monde, Les Journées de l'économie, Lyon, 2011 (speaker)

Hawkamah annual conference, Dubai, 2008; Oman, 2009; Dubai, 2012; Dubai, 2013 (speaker and moderator)

Training seminar on private-public partnerships, Jordan, 2007 (speaker)

Annual conference of the Egyptian Institute of Directors, Cairo, 2009 (speaker)

MENA-OECD Ministerial Meetings, Dead Sea, 2006; Cairo, 2008 (organiser)

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

GOVERN, Flagship Report on Corporate Governance in Lebanon : Advancing the Status Quo, Report for IFG, Beirut, 2017

GOVERN, A Decade of Change in GCC Boardrooms, Report for the GCC BDI, Dubai, 2017

Revue Internationale de Politique du Développement, Arab States as Shareholders, Geneva, 2017

GOVERN, Improving the Attractiveness of the Egyptian Capital Market, Paris, 2016
The Role of Institutional Investors in the Egyptian Capital Market, GOVERN, Paris, 2016
Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, The Role of Investors in Greening MENA Economies, UK, 2015
OECD, The Role of Institutional Investors in Corporate Governance, Paris, 2015
OECD, MENA Corporate Governance Guide, Paris, 2015
OECD, Corporate Governance Enforcement in MENA, Working Paper, Paris, 2014
OECD, Treatment of Related Party Transactions in the Middle East and North Africa, Paris, 2014
Springer, Shareholder Spring in the Middle East and North Africa (in Corporate Governance in Emerging Markets, Paris 2014)
OECD, Privatisation and Demutualisation of MENA Stock Exchanges, Paris, 2013
Hawkamah Journal, Shareholder Spring in the MENA region, Dubai, 2013
OECD, The Role of MENA SOEs in Social and Economic Development, Paris, 2013
OECD, Corporate Reporting and Knowledge-Based Capital, Paris 2013
OECD, Towards New Arrangements for State Ownership in the MENA region, Paris, 2012
OECD, What Role For MENA Stock Exchanges in Corporate Governance?, Paris, 2012
IFA, Deuxième Vague de Gouvernance d'Entreprise au Moyen-Orient et en Afrique du Nord, Paris, 2011
OECD, Second Corporate Governance Wave in the MENA region, Harvard Law School Forum, NY, 2011
OECD, Corporate Governance Review of Russia, 2011; Morocco, 2010; Egypt, Paris 2010
OECD-WB-INSOL Report on Study on Insolvency Systems in the Middle East and North Africa, 2010
OECD, The Role of Stock Exchanges in Corporate Governance, Paris, 2009
OECD, Policy Brief on Corporate Governance of Banks in the MENA Region, Paris, 2009
OECD, Making Reforms Happen in the MENA Region, Paris, 2008

Full list of articles and publications is available upon request.

Recent articles and op-eds can be accessed at www.govern.center/news

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English, French, Russian, basic Arabic and Italian.