

## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **Judges meet to select Middle East Insurance Industry Awards winners**

Dubai, 12 October 2014 – As part of the extensive deliberations in the Middle East Insurance Industry Awards (MIIA), the panel of distinguished industry leaders is meeting today in Dubai for the final round of judging to select the winners of the Awards in each of the 14 categories.

The panel of 25 judges, drawn from local, regional and international industry leaders, will be choosing the winners among the 42 finalists, shortlisted from the more than 200 entries received through the process of online judging, based on submissions made by the entrants.

The judges will deliberate on the quality of the entries based on clearly defined criteria and the winner will be selected through a secret ballot. The scores will then be tabulated and audited by independent auditors EY, which is also represented at today's judging.

Entries to the MIIA closed on 30 June after a nomination period of three months. Modelled after the internationally acclaimed Asia Insurance Industry Awards, now into its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the MIIA is fully transparent with defined criteria for each category. The results of the judging will be kept secret until the Gala Dinner on 17 November 2014, held in conjunction with the MENA Rendezvous. These events will be held in Dubai.

#### **The awards categories are:**

- Life Insurance Company of the Year
- General Insurance Company of the Year
- Health Insurer of the Year
- Educational Service Provider of the Year
- Innovation of the Year
- Service Provider of the Year
- Law Firm of the Year
- Broker of the Year
- Reinsurance Broker of the Year
- Reinsurer of the Year
- Personality of the Year
- Family Takaful Company of the Year
- General Takaful Company of the Year
- Retakaful Company of the Year

#### **The Judging Panel comprises:**

##### Regional Judges

- Abdul Khaliq R Khalil, Secretary General, General Arab Insurance Federation (GAIF)
- Christian Kraut, Chief Executive, Middle East and Africa Munich Re
- Dr Bassel Hindawi, former Insurance Commissioner, Insurance Commission of Jordan
- Fahad Al-Hesni, Chief Executive Officer, Saudi Reinsurance Company
- Fareed Lutfi, Secretary General, Emirates Insurance Association
- Fateh Bekdache, General Manager, AROPE Insurance s.a.l.
- Hammam M Badr, Secretary General, Federation of Afro-Asian Insurers & Reinsurers (FAIR)

- Jason Light, Chief Executive Officer, Emirates Insurance Company (PSC)
- Mahomed Akoob, Managing Director, Hannover Re Takaful
- Mark Cooper, Director, Insurance, Reinsurance & Captives, Dubai International Financial Centre Authority
- Dr Michael Bitzer, Chief Executive Officer, National Health Insurance Company
- Robin Kevin Ali, Consultant, Health Funding Department, Dubai Health Authority
- Steve Dixon, Regional Managing Director, ACE Group MENA Regional Office
- Walid Genadry, Head of the Insurance Control Commission, Ministry of Economy and Trade, Lebanon
- Walid A Sidani, Chief Executive Officer, Abu Dhabi National Insurance Company
- Yassir Albaharna, Chief Executive Officer, Arab Insurance Group
- Younis Al Sayed, Chairman, Bahrain Insurance Association

#### International Judges

- Ashok Kumar Roy, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, General Insurance Corporation of India
- Geoff Riddell, Regional Chairman, Asia-Pacific, Middle East & Africa, Zurich Insurance Group
- Dr Kai-Uwe Schanz, Special Advisor, The Geneva Association
- Michael J Morrissey, President & Chief Executive Officer, International Insurance Society
- Patrick Liedtke, Managing Director & Head of Financial Institutions Group – EMEA, BlackRock
- Dr Peter F Hugger, Chief Executive Officer, Echo Reinsurance Limited
- Dr Roger Sellek, Chief Executive Officer, A M Best - EMEA & Asia Pacific
- Dr Sandy Scott, Director General, Chartered Insurance Institute

#### **The MIIA is sponsored by:**

- Arig
- Chedid Re
- Daman
- Echo Re
- Hannover Re
- Munich Re
- NEXtCARE
- RGA
- Zurich

For more details, visit [www.meinsurancereview.com/meirawards](http://www.meinsurancereview.com/meirawards) or contact:

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#### **About *Middle East Insurance Review***

Established in 2006, *Middle East Insurance Review (MEIR)* has become an integral part of the marketplace as a highly professional magazine meeting the information needs of insurance practitioners, not only those in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), but those interested in doing business in the region.

*MEIR* is the magazine of choice for both conventional insurance as well as takaful players in these markets, as the only publication with a dedicated section on the global takaful industry. Due to its reputation and extensive reach, *MEIR* is the official publication for major industry events such as the GAIF and FAIR Conferences. In addition, *MEIR* has made its mark through technical conferences adding value to the industry.

*MEIR* also manages the secretariat services of the prestigious and exclusive MENA Insurance CEO Club (MICC). Together with its sister publication, *Asia Insurance Review*, *MEIR* has nearly 30 years of experience in covering the insurance industry.