

## **High-Level Roundtable**

### **“Macroeconomic Resilience amid Geopolitical Turmoil”**

**Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**The St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort**

**Abu Dhabi City | UAE**

| Time          | Session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| 14:00 – 15:00 | <p><b>Session I: Geopolitical Turmoil, Economic Uncertainty, and Macroeconomic Policymaking</b></p> <p>Recent geopolitical developments have heightened global economic uncertainty, creating significant challenges for policymakers in both advanced and emerging economies. These developments affect key macroeconomic indicators including inflation, growth, trade, energy and commodity prices, tourism, investment flows, fiscal balances, and external positions through multiple transmission channels.</p> <p>Across Arab economies, the impact varies according to economic structure, degree of openness, and dependence on sectors such as energy, trade, and tourism.</p> <p>In this environment, policymakers must make decisions under elevated uncertainty.</p> <p>This session will examine the global and regional macroeconomic implications of geopolitical tensions, assess the resilience of Arab economies and financial systems, and explore analytical approaches that can strengthen policy formulation and crisis preparedness in a rapidly changing environment.</p> <p><b>Introductory Remarks:</b> Dr. Bassem Kamar, Executive Director, Economic Policies, Arab Monetary Fund</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker:</b> H.E. Dr. Rania Al Mashat, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).</p> <p><b>Interventions:</b> Their Excellencies Arab Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors</p> <p><b>Open Discussion</b></p> <p>Suggested Discussion Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geopolitical risks and macroeconomic policy trade-offs.</li> <li>• Inflation, commodity prices, energy market volatility, and supply-chain disruptions.</li> <li>• Financial stability, capital flows, and cross-border spillovers.</li> <li>• Building economic resilience in an increasingly fragmented global environment.</li> <li>• Lessons from countries experience.</li> </ul> |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | <b>Coffee break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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| <b>15:30 – 16:30</b> | <p><b>Session II: Strengthening Monetary–Fiscal Coordination Under Heightened Global Uncertainty</b></p> <p>Heightened geopolitical fragmentation, financial market volatility, and rising debt vulnerabilities have reinforced the importance of effective coordination between fiscal and monetary authorities across the Arab region. In an environment characterized by persistent inflationary pressures, tighter financial conditions, and increased uncertainty, policymakers face the challenge of maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability while supporting growth and preserving debt sustainability</p> <p>This session will examine how fiscal and monetary authorities can enhance policy coordination during periods of economic stress, geopolitical shocks, and structural change. It will explore institutional arrangements, governance frameworks, and coordination mechanisms that support coherent policy responses while safeguarding central bank independence and policy credibility. The session will also discuss lessons from international and regional experiences, including the role of financial stability councils, communication frameworks, and crisis-management mechanisms in strengthening policy effectiveness and resilience.</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker:</b> Mr. Sandeep Mahajan, Regional Practice for Prosperity in the Middle East, Afghanistan &amp; Pakistan region.</p> <p><b>Interventions:</b> Their Excellencies Arab Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors</p> <p><b>Open Discussion</b></p> <p>Suggested Discussion Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutional mechanisms for effective fiscal–monetary coordination.</li> <li>• Coordination challenges during conflict, geopolitical shocks, and market stress.</li> <li>• Debt sustainability and its implications for monetary policy conduct.</li> <li>• Challenges facing Arab economies and lessons from countries experience.</li> </ul> |
| <b>16:30</b>         | <b>Closing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |