



صندوق النقد العربي
ARAB MONETARY FUND



مجلس محافظي المصارف المركزية ومؤسسات النقد العربية
COUNCIL OF ARAB CENTRAL BANKS AND
MONETARY AUTHORITIES GOVERNORS

Sixth Meeting of the
Arab Regional Fintech Working Group
Virtual Meeting

November 24-25, 2021



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Agenda

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**Sixth Meeting of the
Arab Regional Fintech Working Group “Online”
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Agenda

Arab Monetary Fund

First Day Agenda

برنامج عمل اليوم الأول

Opening Remarks:

الكلمة الافتتاحية:

15:00 – 15:05 Welcoming Remarks and Introductory Note by Arab Monetary Fund

كلمة ترحيبية وتقديمية من صندوق النقد العربي

1st Working Session:

جلسة العمل الأولى:

Artificial intelligence applications in the financial sector

تطبيقات الذكاء الاصطناعي في القطاع المالي

Speakers: OECD-IIF-IOSCO-members of the Arab Regional Fintech WG

المتحدثين: منظمة التنمية والتعاون الاقتصادي، ومعهد التمويل الدولي، والمنظمة الدولية لهيئات أسواق المال، وأعضاء مجموعة التقنيات المالية الحديثة

- AI use cases in the financial sector, opportunities, and challenges
- Associated risks and their management
- Ethical use of Data and responsible Data Management
- Regulation and Governance of AI
- Discussion of WG paper on “AI adoption in Financial Industry”

- فرص وتحديات الذكاء الاصطناعي وحالات الاستخدام في الصناعة المالية

15:05 – 16:00

- المخاطر المصاحبة وإدارتها

- المسؤولية في إدارة البيانات واستخداماتها

- الأطر التنظيمية وحوكمة استخدام الذكاء الاصطناعي

- مناقشة ورقة عمل المجموعة حول الذكاء الاصطناعي

2nd Working Session:

جلسة العمل الثانية:

Open Banking - Open Finance - Open Data

الخدمات المصرفية المفتوحة والتمويل المفتوح

Speakers: Georgetown University Law Center - FCA (UK)- Mastercard- UAB Digital (Union of Arab Banks)

المتحدثين: جامعة جورج تاون، هيئة الإرشاد المالي (إنكلترا)، ماستر كارد، إتحاد المصارف العربية

16:00 – 17:00

- From open banking to open finance
- Data sharing and governance within Open banking /finance frameworks
- Regulatory and Technical considerations for Open Finance
- Open Banking Execution Strategies for commercial banks

- الانتقال من الخدمات المصرفية المفتوحة إلى التمويل المفتوح

- مشاركة وحوكمة البيانات في أطر الخدمات المصرفية المفتوحة والتمويل المفتوح

- إعتبارات تنظيمية وتقنية للتمويل المفتوح

- إستراتيجيات تنفيذ العمليات المصرفية المفتوحة للبنوك التجارية

3rd Working Session:

جلسة العمل الثالثة:

Recent Landscape of Global & Regional Data Protection and Privacy Frameworks

أحدث تطورات نظم حماية وخصوصية البيانات

Speakers: KARM Legal Consultants

المتحدثين: كارم للخدمات الإستشارية والقانونية

17:00 – 17:30

Discussion of WG paper on Data Protection and Privacy Frameworks in the Arab Region

مناقشة ورقة العمل حول حماية البيانات في المنطقة العربية

Second Day Agenda

برنامج عمل اليوم الثاني

1st Working Session:

Recent Developments of Global Stable Coins and CBDCs.

Speakers: FSB- BIS-Bank of England, M10 Inc

15:00 – 16:00

- Regulation, supervision and oversight of global stable coins
- CBDCs landscape and recent developments: Regional & global perspectives, drivers and leading experiences

Fintech WG Members

Discussion of “CBDCs: A practical guide for Arab “Central Banks

2nd Working Session:

Building proper Regtech/Suptech Ecosystem

Discussion of recent Regtech/Suptech papers

Speakers: Hong Kong University – Regtech Association Australia - MFTA (MENA Fintech Association)

16:00 – 17:00

Fintech WG Members

- The role Regtech can play in unlocking innovation and economic growth in the region
- Suptech/ Regtech Toolkit for policy makers in the region

3rd Working Session:

Discussion of the working program for H1-2022 and list of topics for 2022

Preparation for the next regular meeting on May 2022.

17:00 – 17:30

جلسة العمل الأولى:

أحدث تطورات ترتيبات العملات المستقرة والعملات الرقمية للمصارف المركزية

المتحدثين: مجلس الاستقرار المالي، بنك التسويات الدولية، بنك إنكلترا، شركة M10

- أطر التنظيم والرقابة والإشراف العملات المستقرة العالمية
- استعراض لتوجهات إصدار العملات الرقمية وبعض التجارب الدولية الرائدة

أعضاء مجموعة التقنيات المالية الحديثة

مناقشة ورقة السياسات "دليل عملي لتفعيل العملات الرقمية"

جلسة العمل الثانية:

بناء بيئة حاضنة للتقنيات التنظيمية والرقابية

مناقشة الأوراق الحديثة حول التقنيات التنظيمية والرقابية

المتحدثين: جامعة هونغ كونغ، جمعية التقنيات التنظيمية والرقابية أستراليا، جمعية التقنيات المالية الحديثة في الشرق الأوسط

أعضاء مجموعة التقنيات المالية الحديثة

- دور التقنيات التنظيمية في تعزيز الابتكار والنمو الاقتصادي للمنطقة العربية
- أدوات التقنيات التنظيمية والرقابية لصانعي السياسات

جلسة العمل الثالثة:

مناقشة برنامج عمل المجموعة خلال النصف الأول من عام 2022 والمواضيع الرئيسية لعام 2022

التحضير للاجتماع الاعتيادي القادم في مايو 2022.

Closure

الختام



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BIOs

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Iota Nassr

**Policy Analyst
Directorate for Financial and
Enterprise Affairs
OECD**

Iota Nassr is a Policy Analyst at the Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs of the OECD, where she currently leads the FinTech Experts Group of the Committee on Financial Markets. Prior to joining the OECD, Iota was an Investment Banker, working for the M&A departments of Merrill Lynch and Citigroup in London. She holds an MBA from ESSEC Grande Ecole and a M.Sc. in Accounting and Finance from Athens University of Economics and Business.

Natalia Bailey

**Policy Advisor
Digital Finance Department
Institute of International Finance**



Natalia Bailey is a Policy Advisor with the Digital Finance Department at the IIF, where she focuses on the digital transformation of the financial system, particularly the application of new technologies such as Machine Learning to the domain of risk management, compliance and financial sector supervision. She has conducted a series of deep dives assessments to address common challenges in the use of ML related to: (i) explainability and interpretability and (ii) bias and ethical implications. Natalia holds a Master of Public Policy from George Mason University, and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Hollins University, where she attended as a recipient of a IIE-Fulbright Scholarship.



Alp Eroglu
Senior Policy Advisor
International Organisation of
Securities Commissions (IOSCO)

Alp Eroglu joined IOSCO in 2010 and is responsible for IOSCO's policy work on a variety of matters, including issues considered by Committee 3 on Regulation on Market Intermediaries, Committee 7 on Derivatives Markets, market conduct, financial benchmarks and price reporting agencies, SME and infrastructure financing, compensation practices and various derivatives markets related issues. He also conducts regulatory workshops on numerous topics.

Alp has more than twenty-five years of professional experience, twenty years of which is in securities regulation.

He has an undergraduate degree from University of Ankara Law School, and postgraduate degrees from University of Pennsylvania Law School and Wharton Business School.

Vitor Gaspar

**Senior Expert Of Mean
Systems Payments And Financial
Market Infrastructure
Central Bank Of Morocco**



Born in Fez in Morocco in 1971, I am a graduate engineer in applied mathematics and computer science from INSA Lyon in France (national institute of applied sciences). I started my professional career in Paris as an IT consultant with a large group (e.g. Natixis, BNP PAM, Société Générale). Then I was promoted to IT architecture manager in different organizations in Paris for more than 14 years. From 2008 to 2015, I joined the central bank of Morocco as an IT manager in charge of developing solutions for the trades of monetary and exchange policy. Since 2016, I have been promoted within the central bank of Morocco as a senior expert in payment systems and means and financial market infrastructure within. I am an active member in several work groups (Arab Monetary Fund, World Bank, AFI, etc.) relating to payment systems, fintech, cyber-resilience and financial inclusion. I regularly participate in international seminars on payment systems and financial stability. I also have certifications in data centers, IT security, Business Continuity Activity.

Patrick Lefas

**Chief Information Officer
Chief Digital Officer | Fintech And
Digital Transformation Advisor
Fintech Bazaar**



Multi-faceted information technology professional with more than 20 years of extensive experiences in different industries and business segments, financial services (conventional, Islamic), conglomerate, real estate, consulting/advisory services and software services, attaining 15 years' experience as a Chief Information Officer (CIO) and CXO advisor in leading organisations in GCC. Demonstrated success leading and fostering teams in completing major business and digital transformation programs conforming to unique and challenging goals and timelines while keeping Customer Experience CX and Innovations as a key pillar. Solid background and knowledge in Technology, different business industries, Financial services as well as strategic management. Charted success constructing the IT organization and systems of four Islamic financial services Banking start-ups in MENA as well the first conversion ever for conventional to Islamic Bank. Nominated as one of the top 50 CIO's in Middle East at the IDC CIO Summit 2021, top 50 Digital leaders in Middle East CXO50 by CXO insights Middle east in 2020, top 50 CIO's in the Middle East by CNME magazine in 2012, and as Manchester Business School Distinguished Ambassador of the Middle East Centre where obtained MBA degree focusing on strategy management. Distinguished speaker at major regional and international conferences about Fintech, PropTech and disruptive technologies Blockchain, AI, IOT and Big Data, as well one of the main Fintech and Digital Banking contributors in the Middle East through TV and business portals interviews, and member of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) Fintech Working Group (FWG). Proven technology leader equipped with advanced communication and interpersonal skills, fluent in both English and Arabic. Technically proficient in multiple back office solutions, core banking, ERP, digital platforms and digital solutions spanning across different industries

Nouran Youssef

Senior Financial Sector Specialist Arab Monetary Fund



In her current position, she provides support to Arab countries in fields of Financial Technology “Fintech” and digital financial transformation, digital financial inclusion, government securities and Sukuk market developments, public debt management and reforms through policy advice, technical assistance, trainings, workshops, as well as publications.

She is leading the Arab regional Fintech Working Group and its activities to enhance a proper Fintech ecosystem in Arab Countries. So, she is currently responsible of diverse Fintech themes in Arab Countries, including regulatory & supervisory frameworks, innovation in Fintech products & services, as well as how to support Fintech activities through developing capacity of professionals in Arab countries.

She initiated the fintech index for the Arab region “FinxAr” and developed the Annual Fintech Report for the Arab Region. Also, co-authored many Fintech publications, particularly in relation to designing Fintech Policies & Strategies, Guidelines, covering different Fintech aspects for the region, in addition to the trilingual Fintech Glossary. Fintech Publications cover, among other topics, Open Banking & Open Finance, Central Bank Digital Currencies, Digital Identity, e-KYC and Digital Customer On-Boarding, Regtech/Suptech, DLT/ Blockchain Technologies, Digital Wallet Providers ...etc.

Before joining the Arab Monetary, Ms. Nouran was the Deputy Debt Manager at the Egyptian Ministry of Finance, she was responsible for adopting a full debt markets’ reform agenda, managing and monitoring government securities portfolio, as well as managing public debt risks. Debt Reforms include increasing the average life of tradable debt of Egypt, introducing new instruments to the Egyptian debt market, namely the floating rate notes (FRNs) and Zero-coupon bonds, designing the yearly and quarterly issuance calendar, handling Primary Dealers’ scheme, participating in the issuance of Egypt’s Eurobonds, as well as her main contribution in drafting the Sovereign Sukuk Law.

She has more than 20 years of experience in government securities markets, Debt Management and reforms, as well as Debt & Sukuk Markets Development; through which she acquired different competencies that has been used to deliver practical experiences through technical assistance programmes and delivering training workshops.

She conducted as well several research on various topics in Islamic and conventional Capital Markets, Debt Markets including sovereign debt markets development and debt management strategies in Arab countries, in addition to the role of capital markets in financing infrastructure.

Moreover, she holds a Doctorate of Business Administration from Cairo University, also, holds a Master of Business Administration in finance from the same University. In 2020, she concluded an Executive Programme on “Fintech and Regulatory Innovation” from the University of Cambridge Judge Business School.



Linda Jeng

**Visiting Scholar on Financial
Technology and Adjunct
Professor of Law
Georgetown University
Law Center's Institute for
International of Economic Law**

Her research interests include open banking, digital assets, and DeFi. She is also the Global Head of Policy at Transparent Financial Systems, a fintech startup developing a blockchain-based digital dollar payment solution. Previously, she served as Chief of Staff for Risk, Data and Surveillance at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors where she chaired the Basel Committee's working group on open banking. She has spent most of her career working on financial stability and reg reform, including the Financial Stability Board in Basel working on international standards addressing Too-Big-to-Fail, the U.S. Senate drafting the Dodd-Frank Act, and the U.S. Treasury Department on the international implementation of G20-led reforms. Linda also has worked at the Securities & Exchange Commission, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and Credit Agricole, SA. She has a J.D. from Columbia Law School, a Master of Advanced Studies from University of Toulouse, France, and a B.A. from Duke University.

Helene Oger-Zaher

**payment, retail banking
and crypto specialist
Financial Conduct Authority**



Helene is a payment, retail banking and crypto specialist. She has extensive regulatory experience in the UK and internationally.

She joined the FCA in June 2019 and manages the payments policy team. Her focuses include open banking and open finance, fraud, payments regulation and crypto / CBDC. Before joining the FCA, she worked at the European Banking Authority, where she led open banking, strong customer authentication and fraud work.

Prior to that, she worked at the FSA/FCA in a range of roles ranging from supervision to competition and in the industry in compliance roles.

She holds a PhD in law.



Hakan Eroglu

**Global Open Banking Lead
for the Advisory business
Mastercard**

Hakan is the Global Open Banking Lead for the Advisory business at Mastercard is a board member of the MENA Fintech Association (MFTA). He is an expert for API-driven ecosystems, Open Banking/Finance regulation, API standardization, instant and frictionless payments. Hakan is a recognized thought leader in his area of expertise. He joins Mastercard from Accenture and is a member of the Regional Arab Fintech Working Group, Berlin Group open Finance Advisory Board, the Open Banking Working Group of the Euro Banking Association (EBA) and author of articles and consultations on Open API and Fintechs at Forbes and other media.

Suleiman Barada

**Sr. Advisor & Head of UABdigital
Union of Arab Banks**



He is an Independent Technology Business Strategist. A Sr. Advisor at the Union of Arab Banks, and Head of UABdigital where he spearheads the ecosystem digital transformation arm of the Union, with an ecosystem-wide vision and mission, and a mandate to leaving no financial institution behind as the sector transitions into the Digital Economy within the Arab countries. Suleiman is also Chair of the Advisory Board at the Arab Banks Innovation Council (ABIC). In his capacity at the Union, and reporting into the Union's Secretary General, Suleiman is leading a Pan-Arab digital banking agenda on FinTech Collaborations, Open Banking, CBDC, and other transformative initiatives affecting the Arab banking sector as a whole.

Suleiman is also a member of the General Union of Arab Experts under the League of Arab States. And He is a sought after speaker and thought leader on the global stage on topics such as Strategy Execution, Digital Finance, as well as other topics related to the digital transformation in the financial services industry.

Suleiman is an Ecosystem Architect with focus on value creation and practices a purpose-driven approach to developing and executing Digital Business Transformation roadmaps while being entirely focused on Benefits Realization and the way they can be measured, attained, and sustained. Suleiman has worked with a wide variety of international technology vendors and possesses a thorough understanding of the global tech ecosystem and their characteristics. Founded S2E MEA, an affiliate of S2E Transformation Inc., a Strategy Execution consulting firm based out of New York, USA.

Suleiman has acted in various capacities and has led and scaled several businesses in the region with a solid track record in significantly growing companies right from inception with evident turnaround capabilities. Suleiman is regarded as a trusted advisor to clients, partners, and peers and is adept at extending the most relevant advisory, independent of situation or industry.



Manav Joshi

Associate

KARM Legal

He has previous experience at leading law firms in the UAE. At KARM, he has experience in assisting KARM's clients in the specialised fields of Fintech, Insuretech, Medtech and Data Protection.

As a member of the KARM research team, he is responsible for researching the nuanced changes in regulations and assisting with the adaptation of legal opinions to reflect regulatory compliance. He has assisted members of the KARM team in the drafting and reviewing of a multitude of contracts and other legal documents, including software licensing and sub-licensing agreements, escrow agreements, shareholders' agreements, employment contracts, staff handbooks etc.

He was a contributor to the Arab Monetary Fund mandated policy guidelines on Digital ID and e-KYC within the Fintech realm and is currently working on policy guidelines for New Age Alternative Finance Solutions.

RATUL ROSHAN

Associate

KARM Legal



He worked in the technology regulatory and policy space in India earlier. He has advised global cloud service providers, online content platforms, fintechs, ecommerce platforms, gaming platforms, aerospace startups, and search engine platforms on government relations and policy advocacy. His advisory experience includes personal and non-personal data protection, privacy, content regulation, artificial intelligence, intermediary liability, and cloud infrastructure ownership, amongst others. He was also an active contributor to whitepapers, position papers and guidance documents released by global multilateral organisations on blockchain, smart contracts and the like. At KARM, he works across verticals and assists in matters relating to Data Protection, Gaming, AI Blockchain, Financial Technologies, AML/KYC, amongst other emerging technologies. He has advised clients on token offerings, fundraising, setting up of cryptocurrency exchanges, deployment of public and enterprise blockchains, and on digital wallets and payments solutions.



Eva Hüpkes
**Head of Regulatory
and Supervisory Policies**
Financial Stability Board (FSB)

She oversees the FSB Secretariat support on regulatory and supervisory policy cooperation and resolution, covering a broad range of issues, including addressing regulatory and supervisory issues associated with technological innovation. Since she joined the FSB in 2009 she has contributed substantially to the development of the FSB/G20 post-crisis policy reforms, in particular the framework for addressing threats to financial stability posed by systemically important financial institutions and global standards for resolution.

Prior to joining the FSB, she served as Head of Regulation at the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) where she, for over a decade, helped design and draft a broad range of legislative and regulatory reforms. During 1997-1999 she worked at the International Monetary Fund where she supported the Fund's response to the Asian financial crisis. Eva Hüpkes is a member of the New York Bar and holds degrees in law and international relations from the University of Geneva, the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, and Georgetown University, the University of Passau, Germany, and a PhD in law from the University of Berne.

Giulio Cornelli

**Senior Financial Market Analyst
Departmental Research Support unit
Bank For International Settlements**



Giulio Cornelli is a Senior Financial Market Analyst in the Departmental Research Support unit of the BIS Monetary and Economic Department. Before joining the BIS, Giulio worked in the International Policy Analysis division at the ECB. Giulio holds a BSc and an MSc in economics and social sciences from Bocconi University. He is a CFA® charterholder and a certified Financial Risk Manager



Manisha Patel

**Senior Specialist, Central Bank
Digital Currencies, CBDC Unit
Bank of England**

Manisha joined the Bank of England in 2018 to the Notes Division as a senior analyst within the Future of Money team: responsible for exploring the drivers around future cash usage alongside monitoring trends in both privately and publicly-issued digital currencies. Manisha now covers our international engagement around central bank digital currency (CBDC) developments within the Bank's CBDC unit. She studied Economics and Finance at the University of Exeter. Previous experience includes various roles within the UK government as both an economist and policy official, and as a financial advisory analyst for a global investment bank in London.

Richard Char

**Senior Vice President
of Business Development
M10**



Richard Char is Senior Vice President of Business Development at M10. He was previously Senior Vice President of Global Business and Corporate Development at Verifone, a leader in retail payment solutions. Before that, Richard was Managing Director, Global Head of Digital Networks and Merchant Solutions at Citi. Richard has been involved in payments since 2006.

Deborah Young

**Founding CEO
The RegTech Association**



Deborah Young is the founding CEO of The RegTech Association, a global non-profit industry member body focussed on accelerating adoption of RegTech solutions and creating a global centre of excellence. Since helping to establish the Association in 2017, she has led the growth to 180 organisations including 130 RegTech firms. The cohort also includes top tier banks, global technology companies and consulting firms. She has advocated for the industry with Government, regulators, investors and trade agencies. Deborah has led the recognition of Australia as the third highest concentration of RegTech producers in the world and is a sought after advisor on the global RegTech industry, a regular speaker, presenter and designer of RegTech programs for the association and its partners and engages with regulators globally.

Deborah sits on the Alliance for Innovative Regulation Global Council, Australian Federal Government FinTech Advisory Committee, NSW Government ICT Procurement Task Force, The National Blockchain Roadmap RegTech Committee and is a member of Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) Digital Committee & UTS Business School Women's MBA Network Executive Committee.

Deborah is an accomplished chief executive, non-executive director, mentor and strategic business consultant. She has over 20 years' experience as a senior executive across financial services, including investment banking, private equity, venture capital, superannuation and insurance spectrums. Deborah holds an Executive MBA (Global) from UTS Business School and was named

Douglas W. Arner

**Kerry Holdings Professor in Law
Director of the Asian Institute of
International Financial Law
University of Hong Kong**



Douglas W. Arner is RGC Senior Fellow, and Associate Dean (Taught Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong. At HKU, he co-founded and is the Faculty Director of the LLM Compliance and Regulation, LLM Corporate and Financial Law, LITE (Law, Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship), and EAIEL (East Asian International Economic Law and Policy) Programmes. In addition, Douglas is Associate Director of the Standard Chartered Foundation-HKU FinTech Academy, a Senior Visiting Fellow of Melbourne Law School of the University of Melbourne, a non-executive director of NASDAQ and Euronext listed Aptorum Group, an Advisory Board Member of the Centre for Finance, Technology and Entrepreneurship (CFTE), and co-founder and an executive board member of the Asia Pacific Structured Finance Association. He has served as a consultant with, among others, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UN, APEC, Alliance for Financial Inclusion, and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Douglas specialises in economic and financial law, regulation and development. He is author, co-author or editor of eighteen books, including *The RegTech Book* (Wiley 2019), *Reconceptualising Global Finance and its Regulation* (Cambridge 2016), *Financial Markets in Hong Kong: Law and Practice* (Oxford, 2d ed., 2016), *Finance in Asia: Institutions, Regulation and Policy* (Routledge 2013), *From Crisis to Crisis: The Global Financial Crisis and Regulatory Failure* (Kluwer 2011) and *Financial Stability, Economic Growth and the Role of Law* (Cambridge 2007), and the author or co-author of more than 150 articles, chapters and reports on related subjects. His recent papers are available at SSRN [<http://ssrn.com/authors=524849>] where he is among the top 60 authors in the world by downloads.

He is currently leading a major 5 year Hong Kong Research Grants Council Senior Research Fellowship project on the role of FinTech and RegTech in financial inclusion and the UN Sustainable Development Goals as well as a 4 year RGC Research Impact Fund project focusing on FinTech policy and regulation. From 2012-2018, Douglas served as Project Coordinator of a major five-year project funded by the Hong Kong Research Grants Council Theme-based Research Scheme on “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre”. He is currently one of the core team of another TRS project focusing on digital finance, financial stability and financial inclusion. He led the development of one of the world’s largest massive open online courses (MOOC) on financial technology: *Introduction to FinTech* [<https://www.edx.org/course/introduction-to-fintech>], launched with edX in May 2018, now with over 90,000 learners spanning almost every country in the world, as part of the first online Professional Certificate in FinTech.

Douglas has been a visiting professor or fellow at Duke University, Harvard University, the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research, IDC Herzliya, McGill University, Melbourne University, National University of Singapore, Queen Mary University of London, University of New South Wales, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, and Zurich University, among others. He has lectured, co-organised conferences and seminars and been involved with financial sector reform projects around the world. Douglas served as Head of the Department of Law of the University of Hong Kong from 2011 to 2014. He was an inaugural member of the Hong Kong Financial Services Development Council (2013-2019) and Director of the Duke-HKU Asia America Institute in Transnational Law (2005-2016), and a member of the International Advisory Board of the Australian Centre for International Finance and Regulation from 2010-2016. In 2007, he received HKU’s Outstanding Young Researcher Award.

He holds a BA from Drury College (where he studied literature, economics and political science), a JD (cum laude) from Southern Methodist University, an LLM (with distinction) in banking and finance law from the University of London (Queen Mary College), and a PhD from the University of London.



Avere Hill
Co-founder & COO
Cynopsis Solutions

He is responsible for the strategic expansion of the business across Europe, Middle East and Africa. Founded in 2014, Cynopsis is a multi-award winning regulatory technology (RegTech) company that focuses on anti-money laundering and countering terrorism financing software to automate manual processes and digitise analogue records and documents.

Cynopsis innovative software provides a cost-effective, secure and scalable solution to help firms keep pace with regulatory change while minimising undue compliance costs to their businesses, through the application of functional modern technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), natural language processing (NLP), optical character recognition (OCR) and bio-metrics.

He is a qualified accountant and accomplished senior financial services professional with over 25 years of international experience. His career started with JP Morgan in London and he gained significant international experience with BNY Mellon and Manulife Asset Management in Asia. At Manulife Asset Management he was Senior Managing Director with responsibility for all client facing activity across Asia Pacific.