



## ***Counselor Amal Ammar***

President of the National Council for Women

**Counselor Amal assumed the presidency of the National Council for Women in November 2024 and is considered one of Egypt's most prominent judicial figures. She previously served as Assistant Minister of Justice for Human Rights, Women, and Children Affairs from 2020 to 2024. She holds a Master's degree in International Business Law from Cairo University and Sorbonne University. She began her professional career at the Administrative Prosecution Authority and became one of Egypt's first female judges in 2007. Throughout her career, she held several positions within the primary, economic, and appellate courts, and was seconded to work at the Technical Office of the Minister of Justice. She contributed to drafting and reviewing legislation and international agreements related to women's and children's rights.**

**Since 2012, she has been an elected board member of the Arab Women Legal Network. She also served as Head of the Technical Secretariat of Egypt's National Committee for International Humanitarian Law and as Vice President of the Advisory Board of the African Union Advisory Board Against Corruption, becoming the first Egyptian woman to hold this position.**



## ***Senator Dr. Aida Nassif***

**Member of the Egyptian Senate  
Secretary of the Foreign Relations  
Committee**

**Dr. Aida Nassif is a distinguished Egyptian academic, parliamentarian, and advocate for intercultural and interfaith dialogue. She serves as a member of the Egyptian Senate and Secretary of its Foreign Relations Committee. Internationally, she holds a prominent position as Vice President of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians within the International Parliament, becoming the first Egyptian woman to assume this role.**

**Dr. Nassif is also a Professor of Philosophy at Cairo University, specializing in political and Islamic philosophy. Throughout her academic career, she has been recognized for her contributions to philosophical thought, education, and promoting dialogue among cultures and religions. She has published numerous research papers and participated in international conferences addressing philosophical, social, and political issues.**

**Widely respected in intellectual and cultural circles, Dr. Nassif has dedicated her work to fostering tolerance, mutual understanding, and peaceful coexistence, earning several prestigious academic and cultural recognitions throughout her career.**



# ***Amel Yehia Khalil***

Executive Chair-Woman & Co-Founder - Venti Company

With so many role models driving her forward, as well as her own fervent passion for her craft; 'Amel Yehia Khalil is a prime example of a strong, successful and supportive figure in the world of business and fashion. A self made entrepreneur born and raised in Egypt, Amel has always shown a promising inclination towards the world of business. Her experience with marketing her 'own designs before reaching her 20's as well as her fervent passion for entrepreneurship has 'enabled her to create Venti: a 100% Egyptian retail clothing brand with a 33-year track record of excellence, resourcefulness, finesse and success.



# **Senator Amal Ramzy**

***Member of the Senate Defense and National Security Committee***

**A prominent Egyptian senator and executive leader, currently serving on the Senate's Committee on Defense and National Security. Along with joining Al Wafd Party's Supreme Committee as a member, she has held roles as Assistant Party President for Tourism Affairs and Chair of the Tourism Committee. She is the Founder and CEO of Al-Safwa Real Estate, as well as the Executive General Manager across leading tourism and hospitality companies, including Egypt Global Tourism, and the Egyptian-Italian Co. for Hotels & Commercial Facility Management. Her role as a member of the Legislative Committee (Committee of Thirty) was instrumental. Further, she holds board positions at Al Wafd Newspaper and Elmasria Group Developments. Earned an MBA, a Leadership Preparation Diploma (ACADSS), and diplomas in modern parliamentary skills from the Arab League's Parliamentary Diplomacy Center, she brings strategic expertise in tourism promotion and institutional governance.**



# Ghada Tawfik

Sub-Governor for Corporate Social Responsibility at  
the CBE

**Ghada has a distinguished career spanning decades in the banking and financial sector. Previously serving as Executive Manager at Bank ABC, she brings extensive expertise in sustainable finance, program development, and ethical governance. Her Advisory role at the CBE has been pivotal in embedding corporate social responsibility into the core of institutional strategy—aligning financial operations with social impact, stakeholder engagement, and national development goals. Renewed for her inclusive and forward-thinking approach, Tawfik has positioned the Central Bank as a regional leader in responsible finance, championing initiatives that promote ethical business conduct and long-term economic resilience. Through a commitment to cross-sector collaboration and values-based leadership, she continues to shape a more sustainable and equitable financial ecosystem in Egypt and beyond.**



# Hala Barakat

Director for the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, AUC Onsi Sawiris School of Business

Hala is an accomplished business leader and advocate for inclusive economic growth, currently serving as Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the AUC Onsi Sawiris School of Business. With a multidisciplinary background spanning banking, hospitality, manufacturing, and international trade, she brings a strategic, cross-sectoral perspective to entrepreneurship development.

At AUC CEI, she leads national and regional programs that empower youth-led startups, scale-ups, and women entrepreneurs, successfully securing institutional partnerships and funding to support Egypt's innovation economy. She also serves as Project Director for the Women on Boards Observatory, advancing gender diversity and leadership in corporate governance.

Hala previously founded Arabiaware, a successful export and retail venture, and has held executive roles at the Arab African International Bank and Canwell Canada. She holds a BA and MA in Economics from AUC and is currently pursuing a PhD in Economics.



# Eng. Hanaa Rashad

Chief Executive Officer of Garrana Group

**Eng. Hanaa is a seasoned industrial leader and the Chief Executive Officer of Garrana Group, Egypt's leading manufacturer of premium stainless steel kitchen equipment. Since joining Garrana Group in 1998, Eng. Hanaa has led the company's transformation from import dependency to localized production. In 2019, she founded the Kitchen Equipment Factory (KEF), which now manufactures over 70% of the company's output, meeting stringent European quality standards. Her visionary leadership has driven innovation, expanded production capabilities, and elevated Garrana Group's market position across the region. A Mechanical Engineering graduate from Helwan University, she is widely recognized for her strategic foresight, operational excellence, and commitment to sustainable manufacturing. Passionate about industrial innovation and environmental responsibility, Eng. Hanaa continues to set new benchmarks in Egypt's manufacturing sector through forward-thinking strategies and high-performance leadership.**



# Dr. Jacqueline Azer

## Governor of El Beheira

**Dr. Jacqueline Azer graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria University in 2010 with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery. She earned a Master's degree in Community Medicine and Public Health from the same university in 2015, and a Doctorate in Medicine, Public Health, and Social and Preventive Medicine in 2016. She worked as an assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria University.**

**Dr. Jacqueline Azer served as Deputy Governor of Alexandria in 2019. She participated in the Presidential Leadership Program for Youth in 2018 and attended numerous conferences, most notably the World Youth Forum held in Sharm El Sheikh in 2018. Among her most prominent contributions was her work on the United Nations project to combat discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS from 2015 to 2018. She also contributed to the World Health Organization's project to assess measles and rubella vaccination coverage.**



# Ghada Mounib

Head of board of trustees  
Forset Hayah Foundation for Rare Diseases

**Ghada is a visionary leader and the Founder and Head of the Board of Trustees at Forset Hayah Foundation for Rare Diseases—Egypt’s first organization dedicated to supporting children with rare and high-cost medical conditions. After remarkable success in real estate, media, and entrepreneurship, Ghada chose to leave her flourishing ventures to fully dedicate herself to philanthropy. Her inspiring journey began with raising EGP 35 million in just 18 days to save Rashid, a child with a rare disease—an experience that ignited her lifelong mission. Since 2021, she has worked relentlessly to advocate for and support rare disease patients across Egypt. Ghada is driven by a bold vision to transform public perceptions, offer hope, and build sustainable support systems for the most vulnerable. Beyond her mission, she is a devoted wife and mother of three, guided by purpose, compassion, and unwavering determination.**



## Dr. Hanan Soliman Gewefel

Dean, College of Applied Health Science and Technology, at Misr University for Science and Technology

**Dr. Hanan is an esteemed radiologist and academic leader, currently serving as Acting Dean of the Faculty of Applied Health Science Technology at Misr University for Science and Technology (MUST), Egypt. With over three decades of clinical and academic experience, she is internationally recognized for her expertise in breast imaging and women's health. Dr. Gewefel is the Founder and CEO of the Women and Fetal Imaging (WAFI) Clinic, a pioneering center dedicated to early detection and screening of breast diseases across the MENA region. A prolific researcher and global lecturer, she collaborates with leading institutions including the IAEA and Susan G. Komen Foundation. Dr. Gewefel holds advanced certifications from the European Society of Breast Imaging and Harvard University, and she remains a driving force in advancing radiology education, breast cancer advocacy, and equitable access to healthcare for women.**



# Dr. Mayssa Shawky

Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine,  
School of Medicine, Cairo University

is a distinguished Professor of Public Health at Cairo University's Faculty of Medicine and Egypt's former Deputy Minister of Health and Population. She previously chaired the Department of Public Health and has played a pivotal role in shaping national health policy. Dr. Shawky has led strategic initiatives in reproductive health and hepatitis control, and served as a senior advisor and trainer to the Ministry of Health. With a Ph.D. in Public Health, a diploma in Total Quality Management from the AUC, and international certifications in healthcare management, she is also a consultant in therapeutic nutrition and breastfeeding. With a medical degree from Cairo University (1985, Honors), she further specialized in Quality Management at the American University in Cairo. An advocate for women's and child health, she sits on the Health Committee of Egypt's NCW and is a certified international trainer from Missouri University.



# Counselor Dr. Marian Kaldas

Executive Director, Egyptian Center for Arbitration and Settlement of Non-Banking Financial Disputes

Counselor Kaldas is the first Executive Director of the Egyptian Centre for Arbitration and Settlement of Non-Banking Financial Disputes (ECAS). Recently appointed by Presidential Decree as a board member of Egypt's National Council for Women, she co-presides over its Economic and Legislative Committee. Dr. Kaldas's trailblazing legal career includes key roles at the Egyptian Administrative Prosecution Authority and Ministry of Justice, where she served as Counselor at the General Department for Arbitration and International Disputes and is a registered arbitrator. She is the first Egyptian woman featured on the University of Montreal's website in recognition of her inspiring career. A Ph.D. graduate in Law with highest distinction from the University of Montreal, Dr. Kaldas also holds a Master's in Law from Indiana University, and degrees in Law and Business Administration from Cairo University and the American University in Cairo respectively. In 2023, she received The Law Award for Most Influential Woman in the Middle East legal sector.



# Menatalla Sadek

Senior Advisor, African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM)

**Mennatalla is a Senior Consultant at African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM) in Cape Town, South Africa. She formerly held the position of Chief Executive Officer at Hassan Allam Utilities Company in Egypt from February 2018 to December 2021. Since 2019, she has served as Executive Director and Board Member of Light Source BP, as well as a Board Member of the International Desalination Association. Ms. Sadek is also a member of the Boards of Directors of Lesico Egypt, Hassan Allam Utilities, and Mangrove Partners. Her distinguished career includes tenures at Beltone Financial (2007–2010), Standard & Poor’s in Sweden (2004–2007), and Assistant Director of Corporate Banking at Barclays Bank (2001–2003). She is a founding member and board member of the Association of Certified Accountants in Egypt and Sweden. Ms. Sadek holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the American University in Cairo (2001), is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder (2004), and completed executive programs in Financial Sciences, Banking, and Securities Law at Stanford University.**



# Omnia Kelig

Chairwoman and Managing Director Naeem  
Financial Investments

**Ms. Kelig is NAEEM Financial Investments (NFI) CEO, bringing over 19 years of extensive experience in investment banking and private equity within the MENA region. She founded and led Viveris Mashrek, managing over USD 4 billion AUM and spearheading USD 140 million in fund placements. Previously, Omnia was Partner and Director at Haykala Investment Management, overseeing the Middle East Turnaround Fund and pioneering Egypt's first Islamic Ijara acquisition finance deal. At Barclays Bank Egypt, she co-headed investment banking, executing landmark acquisition and project finance deals, including the USD 73 million Egyptian Fertilizers Company acquisition and Egypt's first securitization deal. She began her career at Commercial International Bank, contributing to IPOs and M&A transactions. Omnia holds a double-major Bachelor's from the American University in Cairo, an MBA from London Business School, and is a CFA charter holder. She lectures at AUC and researches Islamic finance, with published work on SME development.**



# Dr. Mona Magdalany

Business Development Director - MLF Egypt

**Dr. Mona serves as Deputy Director at MLF Egypte and is currently pursuing her doctorate at UHA. With over 33 years of distinguished experience spanning business administration, school and higher education, and cultural leadership in the performing arts, Dr. Magdalany has demonstrated exceptional expertise in institutional development, departmental restructuring, and the attainment of both national and international quality accreditations. During her tenure as Headmistress of La Mère de Dieu, she was honored with the Academic Palms by the French Ministry of National Education in recognition of nineteen years of outstanding service. Additionally, she received the Alexandria Shield from Alexandria Governorate. As an accomplished playwright and director for more than two decades, Dr. Magdalany's theatre ensemble, Recto Verso, regularly performs at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the Egyptian Festival of International Francophone Theatre, which she co-directs. She has been awarded fifteen consecutive first prizes by the Egyptian Association of French Teachers and was bestowed the Insignia of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture.**



# Dr. Rania Hedeya

Regional Director for Arab States, UN-Habitat

**Dr. Rania is the Acting Regional Representative and Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer at UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Arab States. With over 30 years of experience in development, she leads strategic interventions in sustainable urban development, urban resilience, and SDG localization across 14 country offices. Previously Country Programme Director in Egypt for a decade, she helped position UN-Habitat as a key urban policy actor, supporting national urban strategies and global frameworks. Rania played a pivotal role in Egypt's successful bid to host the 12th World Urban Forum (WUF12) and remains actively involved in its strategic planning. She has also led the establishment of new UN-Habitat offices and resource mobilization across the region. Known for managing operations in conflict and disaster zones, Rania combines policy leadership with operational agility, making her a prominent figure in advancing sustainable urbanization across the Arab region.**



# Ranya Bakr

CEO and Co-Founder of Al Arabi Publishing and Distributing

Rania is the Rights Manager at Al-Arabi Publishing and Distributing, one of Egypt's leading family-run publishing houses. With over 30 years of experience, she has transformed the landscape of Arabic publishing, notably through the groundbreaking "Different Books" project, which has introduced over 500 translated titles from 65 countries. Ranya played a pivotal role in expanding rights acquisitions, bridging cultures, and elevating global literary exchange. As the first Egyptian woman invited to the São Paulo Book Fair Fellowship (2022) and the first Arab woman at Latvia Book Fair (2024), she is recognized as a powerful voice in international publishing. She began her career after graduating from Cairo University's Faculty of Mass Communication and rose to prominence in a traditionally male-dominated field, driven by her commitment to storytelling, cultural dialogue, and amplifying Arab literature worldwide.



# Dr. Sarah Sabry Helali

Global Urban Lead at Save the Children

**Dr. Sarah Sabry is the Global Urban Lead at Save the Children and the founding chair of the Global Alliance – Cities4Children, an alliance of 30 global organisations collaborating towards better cities for children and young people. With over 25 years of experience across development, philanthropy, and academia, her work is at the forefront of global efforts to address the unique challenges faced by children in urban environments. A cornerstone of her contributions is the founding and leadership of the Global Alliance – Cities 4 Children. Sarah is the co-editor of the blog of Cities4Children and the research series Cities for Children and Youth, and a regular public speaker (listen to her latest podcast Building Cities Where Children Can Thrive) Sarah holds a PhD in development studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a BSc in Computer Science from the American University in Cairo. She has taught at SOAS and the University of Zurich.**



# Dr. Sherine H. Al-Shawarby

Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics and  
Political Science, Cairo University

**Dr. Sherine is a Professor of Economics at Cairo University and Vice Dean at Nile University's School of Business. With over three decades of experience spanning academia, government, and international development, she has held pivotal roles including Deputy Minister for Economic Justice at Egypt's Ministry of Finance and Senior Economist at the World Bank. Her expertise encompasses macroeconomic policy, poverty and inequality analysis, subsidy reform, and social protection systems. Dr. Al-Shawarby has led and contributed to national strategies and multilateral projects with institutions such as UNICEF, UNDP, AfDB, ESCWA, and the ILO. A prolific researcher, she has published extensively in academic journals, World Bank reports, and policy papers in both English and Arabic. She also serves on several national boards and advisory councils, advancing inclusive economic reform and evidence-based policy making in Egypt and the broader MENA region.**



# Prof. Dina Shehayeb

Founder and Program Director, Architecture and Urban Design, Nile University

Prof. Dina is Professor and Program Director of Architecture and Urban Design at Nile University, and founder of Shehayeb CONSULT. She earned her PhD in 1995 from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, specializing in urban design and the relationship between human behavior and the built environment. Her work draws from human sciences to inform inclusive and context-sensitive urban planning. Dr. Shehayeb's expertise lies in integrative research, participatory design, spatial impact assessment, and multi-dimensional planning. She has served as advisor to Egypt's Minister of Social Solidarity (2008–2011), a board member of the Informal Settlements Development Fund (2015), and on the UN-Habitat Advisory Board (2004–2012). She has taught at Egyptian and international universities, and previously worked as a researcher at the National Housing and Building Research Center. Her scholarly output includes over 30 papers, international reports, and editorial contributions to academic journals.



# May Zain El Din

Founder & President of Alhassan Foundation for Differently Abled Inclusion

May is a seasoned governance and strategic planning expert and the Founder and Executive Director of Al-Hassan Foundation for Capacity Development. With over 20 years of experience across multinational corporations, she has led initiatives in strategic planning, corporate communications, and youth empowerment. Since 2013, she has transformed the foundation into a pivotal platform supporting developmental institutions across Egypt. She has represented Egypt in key leadership roles, including Chair of the Marketing and Development Committee at the Arab Football Federation and Head of Media at the West African Football Union (WAFU). In 2024, she earned a UN-accredited Master's in Leadership and continues to champion youth and girls' empowerment through national campaigns and UN programs. Her contributions span Cairo to Upper Egypt, shaping inclusive education, fighting gender-based violence, and promoting girls in sports—culminating in Egypt's historic bronze medal at the 2023 African Championship. An accident that left her son in a wheelchair set in motion a series of events that led May Zain El Din to establish a foundation for people with disabilities.