



First Pan-Arab Energy Trade Conference

Day One • Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Session 1 | Advancing Energy Trade in the Pan-Arab Region: Opportunities and Challenges

This session will discuss strategic approaches to gather stakeholders, deepen understanding of national and regional benefits of cross-border electricity and gas trade, and steps towards an enabling environment to align national priorities and regional goals to best exploit energy resources at the Pan-Arab level. A presentation will be made to highlight the efforts of the Arab countries to reduce their fuel bills. This includes raising the fuel efficiency of the thermal units, increasing the share of renewables, along with increasing energy trade. A World Bank paper will be presented to contribute to discussions on energy security within the region by highlighting the main impediments to and opportunities for the development of the energy trade, specifically electricity and gas, which are relevant to the discussion on regional integration and their convergence with sustainable development. The paper discusses energy sustainability through the trading system and proposes regional trade means for further enhancing peace and the energy security agenda in the region.

Opportunities and Obstacles in Electricity and Gas Trade in the Arab World

H. E. Dr. Fareed Zedan, Former Electricity Regulator, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Creating Regional Momentum for Energy Trade

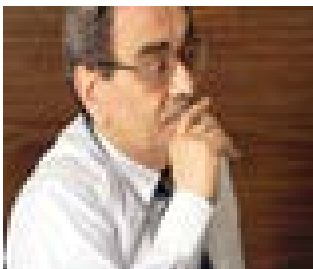
Dr. Paul Nomba Um, Regional Director, Infrastructure, World Bank Group

Panel Discussion

- H. E. En. Hala Zawati, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Jordan
- Ambassador Ahmed Tazi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Arab Republic of Egypt

Moderator: Dr. Mohamed El Sobki, Former Electricity Regulator, Egypt

Panelists



Dr. Mohamed El Sobki,
Former Electricity
Regulator, Egypt

Dr. Mohamed El Sobki holds a B.Sc. degree (1977) & M.Sc. (1980) Cairo University, Egypt.

He received his Ph.D. (1985) McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada.

Professor of Energy Planning (since 2004), Cairo University Adjunct Professor (since 2018) on Electric Power, Zewail Univ., Egypt Former Executive Chairman for the Egyptian New and Renewable Energy Authority (NREA), (Nov 2014-Dec2016). Director Energy Research Center (2010-2014), Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University.

Founding Managing Director (2001-2006) Egyptian Electric Utility and Consumer Protection Regulatory Agency – EgyptERA.

Manager of the Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency Program with the national Industrial Modernization Center – IMC (2007-2010)
Technical Manager: National Energy Conservation & Environment

Member of national and regional Energy Committees & Board of Directors for:

Member advisory board (since 2014), for the Arab Electricity Regulators Forum.

Advisory Board (2011-current), for the joint master program "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for the Middle East and North African (MENA) region"-(REMENA) (Cairo University, Egypt and Kassel University Germany), currently chairman.

Chairman of the Energy & Electricity Research Council, Academy of Scientific Research, since July 2018

Board member, Cairo South & North Electricity Distribution Companies, (2011-2014 & 2015-2018).

Board member, Electronic Research Institute, (2015-2017)

Board member, Electronic Factory, the Arab Organization of Industries (AOI), (2015-2016).

Worked/working, while not assuming a government responsibility, as consultant for a number of projects international funded (e.g. EU funded projects: CREMP, paving the way for RE master plan of Egypt, TARES; GIZ, GIF, UNDP & WB funded projects on EE&RE...,etc.)



H.E. Dr. Fareed Zedan,
Former Electricity Regulator,
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

H.E. Dr. Fareed Zedan holds Dip. Ing. University of Karlsruhe, Germany.

He received his Ph.D. University of Southern California, USA.

Received best applied research award for High Voltage Insulator Performance study, Feasibility study of Interconnection of GCC Power System, and interconnection of Arab Mashreq Countries.

H. E. Dr. Zedan is the Professor Emeritus, King Fahad University of Petroleum & Minerals.

Former Governor, Electricity & Cogeneration Regulatory Authority, Saudi Arabia.

Honorary Chairman, Arab Electricity Regulators Forum.



Dr. Paul Noumba Um,
Regional Director,
Infrastructure, World Bank
Group

Dr. Paul Noumba Um, Cameroonian and French national, is the Regional Director in Infrastructure for Middle East and North Africa region.

Dr. Noumba Um holds a PhD in Economics from Rennes University, and Master's Degrees in Engineering and Economics from France, and a BA in Engineering from the Cameroonian National Post and Telecom School.

He joined the Bank in 1998, coming from Orange Labs, in the then Energy, Mining, and Telecommunication Department in Cameroon.

He subsequently held positions at World Bank Institute, the Middle East/North Africa Region, Finance and Private Sector Development in Africa, and most recently was Country Director for seven countries in Southern Africa (South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe).



H. E. En. Hala Zawati,
Minister of Energy and Mineral
Resources, Jordan

H. E. En. Hala Zawati is currently the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources in Jordan; has thirty years of diversified experience at the regional level in several sectors including Public policy, energy, water, environment, information and communications technology and tourism.

She began her career as Communications Engineer then served as an independent consultant with several international organizations including USAID, JICA, UNDP, EU GIZ and others.

Formerly the CEO of the Jordan Strategy Forum (JSF); a non-for-profit organization, which represents a group of Jordanian private sector companies that are proactively engaged in promoting Jordan's economic growth. Advocate and expert in the Jordanian renewable energy sector.

Founding member and Ex-CEO of EDAMA Association; she has led extensive campaigns and worked thoroughly to introduce and implement RE (wind, solar, and solid waste) laws & regulations in Jordan.

Set the stage for several renewable energy projects under the King Abdullah fund for development (KAFD) when she served as the Fund's renewable energy consultant. Also, served as the renewable energy advisor for Umniah Telecommunications Company, Ahli Bank, Bank of Jordan and energy adviser for "Mubadarah"; a Party at the Jordanian Parliament in Jordan.

Mrs. Zawati is an Entrepreneur, she is the founder and Managing Partner of easyinfo, a Jordanian based company founded in 2004, easyinfo is the first content development company in the region that is specialized in developing content for cultural and tourist sites.

Mrs. Zawati launched a voluntary initiative “WeRonline2”, which aimed at “Bridging the Digital Gap” by Training of senior citizens (ages 65 and above) to use computers and online social networking tools.

Mrs. Zawati holds a BSc. in Electrical Engineering from Jordan University (1987), a mini MBA from Instituto de Empresa in Spain (2007), she attended several advanced management and leadership courses from Harvard, Duke and Thunderbird Universities.

Mrs. Zawati is a founding member of EDAMA association, a member of the board of trustees of Elia Nuqul Foundation, a board member of Amman Stock exchange, a board member of the Giving Society and the Jordanian women Nahda society. An Eisenhower Fellow, she is also the First RealBizÖ analyst in the region (First Arab analyst).



Ambassador Ahmed Tazi,
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to
the Arab Republic of Egypt

H. E. Ambassador Ahmed Tazi holds a Bachelors degree in English Language and literature from Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdellah University, Fès (1988). He also completed the first year of a Master’s degree in English Language, Literature & Law studies from Mohammed V University in Rabat.

He started his career in the field as first Secretary of Foreign Affairs (Secrétaire des Affaires Etrangères), in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation 1989 in Morocco. From 1991 – 1996 he was Seconded to the Private Office of the Prime Minister. From 1997 – 2000, he was then Seconded to the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in Jeddah as an Advisor to the Secretary General of the OIC & Cabinet, Deputy-director of the OIC Secretary General and Director of Coordination between the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary organizations.

At the end of 2016, he was nominated as the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Arab Republic of Egypt.