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### CEO MESSAGE



Ms Sheela Suppiah CEO Asia Insurance Review & Middle East Insurance Review

### **Defining The Future Of Excellence**

On behalf of Middle East Insurance Review (MEIR), we are immensely grateful and proud to be celebrating the 12th year of saluting the industry through the Middle East Insurance Industry Awards (MIIA). What we started back in 2014, as a vision to honour and celebrate excellence across the MENA insurance industry, has today become the proudest symbol and testament of excellence, encapsulating the best of the best in the industry. We never anticipated then that the MIIA trophy would become so sought after as the most powerful accolade representing trust, resilience, credibility and innovation.

Last year, we celebrated stepping into the next decade as we entered the eleventh year. This year, we find ourselves at a crossroads, charting and defining the future of excellence in one of the most dynamic industries in the world. Our ecosystem is shifting at unprecedented speed with digital acceleration, AI breakthroughs, ESG commitments, and rising customer expectations. Against this backdrop, the calibre of entries this year was nothing short of

Since nominations opened in May 2025, we saw record-breaking participation – we received 200 nominations from 16 markets - a clear reflection of how deeply these awards have become embedded in the region's professional DNA. We saw the passion, grit and perseverance behind every submission – proof that our industry continues to rise to every challenge with creativity and courage.

Through it all, the MIIA trophy has continued to reflect the spirit of evolution – spotlighting the changemakers who are redefining the future of risk, protection, and purpose, and indeed defining the future of excellence. We at MEIR are extremely proud yet humbled to have played such a pivotal part in it, not just as chronicler, but as a catalyst.

The sanctity of the trophy has been closely protected and still remains the most coveted today. Neither the judges, nor the sponsors or finalists have been privy to the results until the envelopes were opened on the stage.

This platform stands tall because of the people behind it. We owe our deepest appreciation to our prestigious judging panel. Your impartiality, diligence, and sheer commitment make the MIIA trophy the gold standard of integrity in the industry. Few outside the panel realise the rigour involved – from vetting entries, conducting interviews, to deliberating through two exhaustive judging rounds. Distinguished Judges, you give the awards its strength and this trophy its meaning. We thank you.

The final stamp of approval comes from the stringent audit by the independent auditor, EY. They police the entire process to ensure there is zero room for result manipulation as it is all done via a point scoring system, and control conflicts of interest within the judging panel.

To our sponsors and partners, we thank you for your belief in our mission. Without you, this journey would not have been possible. Many of you have walked alongside us since the beginning and this year, we welcome new sponsors who have joined this prestigious journey – your support has helped us evolve these awards into a regional institution.

To all finalists and winners, your achievements remind us of the critical role of insurance - you truly are the embodiment of excellence in setting new benchmarks for the future. By the time you read this message, the winners would have been revealed. Winners, always remember that the MIIA trophy you hold on the red carpet represents much more than recognition, it is a beacon of inspiration for others to follow. You are now the mentors representing the highest standards the next generation of nominees must beat.

As we look ahead to 2026 when Middle East Insurance Review celebrates our milestone 20th Anniversary, you have our commitment to raise the torch higher. The MENA insurance industry stands at the threshold of extraordinary opportunity and with it, a heavy responsibility to protect our tomorrow, no matter what tomorrow may bring.

I owe my heartfelt appreciation and admiration also to the MEIR team. These awards shine brighter each year due to your dedication, passion and precision in orchestrating every detail of this programme and grandeur of the gala night.

Congratulations once again to all our winners, finalists, and partners. Here's to another year of excellence, innovation and impact!



**ALAA EL-ZOHEIRY** Managing Director, GIG Egypt, Chairman, Insurers Federation of Egypt

Mr Alaa El-Zoheiry is the Managing Director of GIG Egypt and has been in the insurance market for more than 32 years.

He was appointed President of the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurer & Reinsurers in 2021. He holds several positions in various organisations including Chairman of the Insurers Federation of Egypt, Chairman of the Insurance Committee at the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt, board member of Gulf Sigorta - Türkiye, Vice Chairman of Egyptian Takaful - life/GIG since 2011 and board member of GIG - Jordan.

He holds a BA in Business Administration from Sadat Academy for Management Sciences.



Editorial Director. Asia Insurance Review & Middle East Insurance Review

Based in Singapore, Mr Zaki is the Editorial Director overseeing the editorial content for both Asia Insurance Review (AIR) and Middle East Insurance Review (MEIR).

A seasoned journalist, Mr Zaki has deep knowledge of insurance and risk management, with a strong personal interest in technology. His role in both AIR & MEIR include overall charge of editorial content across both regions and he is also a judge on the panel of both the Asia and Middle East awards.

Prior to joining AIR & MEIR, he spent two years as Editor at Asia Business lournal, where he conducted interviews with CEOs and business owners across diverse industries, produced content for digital platforms, and supported industry events and award ceremonies.

Mr Zaki holds a Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature from SIM University.



AHMED AL-JABR CEO. Saudi Re

As the newly appointed CEO of the Saudi Reinsurance Company (Saudi Re), Mr Ahmed Al-Jabr brings a wealth of experience and a steadfast approach to leadership. With over 25 vears of expertise in the insurance and reinsurance sectors in the MENA region, Mr Al-Jabr's career has been one of steady progression and a relentless commitment to the industry.

His association with Saudi Re began in 2011, where he demonstrated his acumen by steadily ascending through the ranks. He previously held the position of Chief Operations Officer before being promoted to the role of deputy CEO. Prior to joining Saudi Re, he worked for the Saudi insurance flagship, Tawuniya for 13 years and assumed various executive roles including general manager of strategy management.

Earlier in 2024, he was appointed as the CEO with a mandate to lead Saudi Re's growth trajectory into its new chapter of market expansion and further reinforce its competitive position.

Beyond his responsibilities at Saudi Re, he actively engages in industry development initiatives and committees and also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for a healthcare company, demonstrating his diverse industry experience and commitment to the broader insurance ecosystem.

Mr Al-Jabr holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Bradford, UK.



**CHAKIB ABOUZAID** Secretary General, General Arab Insurance Federation (GAIF)

Mr Chakib Abouzaid has served in various positions over the span of his career in the insurance industry. He was the Group Marketing Officer for GMRB (DIFC) from 2013 to 2018, CEO of Takaful Re (ARIG Group) from 2005 to 2013 and GM for Best Re Middle East and Gulf from 2000 to 2005. He was also the Vice Chairman of Global Takaful Group.

He was also an ambassador for the International Insurance Society. He is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars.

Mr Abouzaid holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Grenoble University (France) and a Master's degree from the same university in Emerging Economies and Development Models. He also holds a Master's degree in Finance and Insurance from IFID Tunis.

He was the Middle East Insurance Industry Awards 2021's 'Personality of the Year'.



**CHRISTIAN GREGOROWICZ** Global Head of Health Services and Utilities and CEO. Nextcare

Mr Christian Gregorowicz is a seasoned business executive with over two decades of experience in the insurance, third-party administration, IT, and financial services industries across the EMEA region. Currently serving as Nextcare CEO, he also holds the position of Global Head of Health Services and Utilities.

With a proven executive management track record, Mr Gregorowicz has successfully driven growth in the TPA industry, establishing Nextcare as one of the largest players in its markets. He led the integration of the company within the Allianz group, assuming additional responsibilities for developing Allianz Partners' lines of business in the MEA region.

In 2019, Mr Gregorowicz took on the task of expanding Medical Provider Management (MPM) and Third-Party Administration (TPA) services on a global scale. Building on this momentum, in 2021, he further elevated his role by spearheading the Health Services and Utilities line of business across Allianz. His leadership in driving innovation and elevating customer experience through Alenabled health services has been pivotal in transforming the company's approach to healthcare solutions.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Computer and a Master of Science in Management.



**FAREED LUTFI** Secretary General, **Emirates Insurance Association** 

Mr Fareed Lutfi is currently the **Emirates Insurance Association** and the Gulf Insurance Federation's Secretary General, SALAMA Insurance Company's Vice Chairman, Nas Neuron's board member, and Marsh **Emirates Consultancy's General** Manager and executive adviser. He was Quilter International Middle East's board member until August 2022 and was previously National Health Insurance Company's board member.

He has served as an executive board member and on advisory committees of insurance and reinsurance entities in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Türkiye, the UAE and DIFC. He was Group Director, Insurance Services for Dubai Holdings.

Previously, he was of Alliance Insurance Director and CEO, Dubai Islamic Insurance and Reinsurance Company (AMAN) General Manager and DIFC board member.

Mr Lutfi's career began with Arab Insurance Group (ARIG) from 1981 to 1996. He set up and managed ARIG London's contact office from 1982 to 1986.



FARID J SABER
Group COO,
Gulf Insurance Group K.S.C.P.
(GIG)

With over 28 years of experience working in the insurance industry, Mr Farid Joseph Saber joined the Gulf Insurance Group (GIG) in 2016 to provide strategic guidance to achieve the group's growth plan and to oversee the group's ongoing expansion in the MENA region. He is GIG's Group COO and serves on the board of a number of GIG subsidiaries and affiliates.

He led a number of strategic business expansion plans and acquisitions in the region whether as startup in new territories, joint venture or expansion in distribution channels with banks, telecoms, airlines and other digital channels.

Prior to this, he was AlG's MD and country manager for Egypt, Lebanon and Morocco and North Africa. Since joining AlG in 2006, he has assumed leadership roles in the MENA region as country manager in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

He has a Bachelor of Laws and Business Administration from the Lebanese University and holds a Diploma in Insurance from the Chartered Insurance Institute of London.



CEO,
Watania International
Holding

Mr Gautam Datta has more than four decades of experience in the insurance industry including more than 30 years in senior leadership positions in international markets. His expertise ranges across diverse aspects of the insurance sector including underwriting, claims, reinsurance, distribution and business strategy.

Mr Datta was previously National Takaful Company (Watania) CEO and played a leading role in the 2022 merger of the company with Dar Al Takaful, which created Watania International Holding.

Prior to that, he was Al Madina Insurance CEO and played several senior roles at Solidarity Insurance Company and HDFC General Insurance Company. He played a pivotal role in facilitating the inaugural cross-border acquisition of National Takaful by Al Madina, alongside MB Holding, a shareholder of Al Madina Takaful.

He has extensive experience in setting up profitable greenfield ventures and a strong track record of turning around loss-making businesses. He successfully led the conversion of a conventional insurance company to a takaful provider and spearheaded a cross-border acquisition.

As well as being an insurance and takaful industry keynote conference speaker, he is a published expert and regular media commentator on the various market trends and challenges in the Middle East in the takaful and wider insurance sector. He holds a BA in Economics from Jadavpur University in India and is a Fellow of the Insurance Institute of India.



IMRAN AHMED
Group CEO,
NAS Neuron Health Services

Mr Imran Ahmed is the Nas Neuron Health Services Group CEO. In this capacity, Mr Ahmed is leading a comprehensive transformation to establish Nas Neuron as one of the region's premier health services organisations.

He has been instrumental in defining a clear long-term strategy, strengthening the senior leadership team with top-tier talent, and cultivating a renewed culture and sense of purpose throughout the organisation. Under his leadership, Nas Neuron has achieved significant growth, launched new sustainable business platforms, and completed a major visual rebranding. He has also driven substantial advancements in automation and operational efficiency, enabling margin protection while making strategic investments in governance, compliance, and IT security aligned with global standards.

Before his current role, Mr Ahmed served as Nas Neuron's COO, where he successfully enhanced operational performance, customer service, and the adoption of global best practices.

Prior to Nas Neuron, he held senior leadership roles within Cigna International Health, including Strategy, Product, and Data Analytics leadership in Europe, Director of Sales & Client Management for Asia-Pacific based in Singapore, and Director of Partnerships, M&A, and Corporate Development in Hong Kong. These roles involved managing regional client relationships and driving business development across corporate and globally mobile segments.

Mr Ahmed began his career as a Management Consultant with Deloitte in London and Hong Kong, advising multinational insurers and financial services firms on strategy, transformation, and operational excellence.

He holds an MSci in Physics from Imperial College London and has recently completed the Advanced Management Programme at INSEAD.



JASON LIGHT CEO, **Emirates Insurance Company** P.S.C.

Mr Jason Light has spent more than 40 years in the insurance industry, managing a series of complex, high-profile change projects and turnarounds. He became Emirates Insurance Company (EIC) CEO in 2007.

Under Mr Light's leadership, EIC has become one of the largest and most consistently successful insurers in the Middle East. The company was named 'General Insurer of the Year' at the 2018 Middle East Insurance Industry Awards.

Mr Light has been acknowledged as one of the leading insurance company CEOs in the region by several publications and was named one of the top 50 CEOs across all sectors in the region by Forbes magazine.

He was the Chairman of the UAE nuclear insurance pool in 2017-2018. He is also a board member of the MOHRE insurance pool.

He has an MBA from Manchester Business School.



**DR KAI-UWE SCHANZ** Co-Founder and Managing Director, Purpose for Insurance AG

Dr Kai-Uwe Schanz is Swiss advisory company Purpose for Insurance Managing Director and Co-Founder. Until the end of 2024, he served as the Geneva Association's Deputy Managing Director and Head of Research & Foresight. In this role, he also acted as the Global Reinsurance Forum's Executive Director. He continues to support the Geneva Association as a Senior Advisor focusing on financial inclusion and geo-economics, as well as Co-ordinator and Moderator of its Chief Investment Officer Forum.

Before joining The Geneva Association in 2019, Dr Schanz was Co-Founder and Chairman at a reinsurance-focused business development advisory firm and served as a non-executive member of the Board of Directors at Trust International Insurance and Reinsurance Company in Bahrain.

He began his reinsurance career at Swiss Re as a Senior Economist. He then moved to Hong Kong as the company's first Chief Economist for the Asia-Pacific region, later returning to Zurich as Managing Director of Global Communications Content. Subsequently, he joined Converium as Head of Corporate Development and Communications/Investor Relations.

Dr Schanz holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Konstanz (Germany) and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland). He is also a lifetime-appointed Research Fellow at Peking University.



LABIB NASR CEO. LIA Assurex

Mr Labib Nasr is a results-focused strategist with more than 25 years of expertise in leading global insurance and brokerage operations.

His expertise in insurance operations is highlighted by the successful merger of LIA Insurance and he guided after Assurex in July 2021.

His commitment to driving team success and capturing profitable opportunities has reinforced the company's presence throughout a turbulent economic period, by positioning LIA Assurex as third in the local Lebanese market in 2023.

Prior to joining Assurex in 2020, Mr Nasr held the position of ADIR Insurance CEO (2018-2020), and NASCO Insurance Group regional director of operations and systems (2016-2018).

He is an Association des Companies d'Assurances au Liban board member since 2022.

He was also a teacher at the master's programme at Institut Supérieur des Sciences de l'Assurances.

He holds an MBA from AUB (1993), an MBA from NDU (1995), a Certificate for the Young Managers Programme from INSEAD (2004), a Certificate in the 'First Leadership Development Camp' from IMD (2014) and a Certificate in 'Essentials of Leadership' from London Business School (2017).



**MO'MEN MUKHTAR** Secretary General, Federation of Afro-Asian Insurers & Reinsurers (FAIR)

Mr Mo'men Mukhtar is a seasoned insurance professional with more than 38 years of practical experience in insurance and reinsurance holding different positions in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Mr Mukhtar has been the Secretary General of the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurers and Reinsurers 'FAIR' since January 2022. FAIR was established in 1964 and is registered with UNCTAD as a non-governmental organisation. FAIR has more than 210 members from 53 countries in Africa, Asia and beyond.

Before joining FAIR, Mr Mukhtar held senior positions in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. He served as Misr Insurance Company Chairman and Managing Director, as Saudi Reinsurance Company CUO, and various senior positions including the Company for Cooperative Insurance Tawuniya's General Manager Reinsurance and Technical Support and General Manager Property and Casualty.

Mr Mukhtar was an active member of several technical bodies of insurance markets; such as Chair of the Council of Property & Liability Insurances and Chair of the Egyptian Nuclear Insurance Pool, both under the Insurers Federation of Egypt. He also served as a member of the Insurance Disputes Resolution Committee under the Financial Regulatory Authority in Egypt. During his work in Saudi Arabia, he served as a member of the Insurance Market's Property & Liability Sub-Committee under the supervision of the Insurance Authority of Saudi Arabia (previously known as SAMA).

He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors, member of the Risk Committee and Chair of the Audit Committee of Mohandes Insurance Company in Egypt.



**OSAMA A NOOR** Chief Representative, MENA Middle East Insurance Review

Mr Osama Noor is the MENA chief representative for Middle East Insurance Review (MEIR). He has been with MEIR since 2006.

He is responsible for covering regional insurance markets, conducting interviews and research and building a strong network of relationships with industry leaders and professionals.

Prior to joining MEIR, he spent over 11 years in Palestine's insurance industry.



**PETER ENGLUND** Senior Executive Officer, Head of Commercial Insurance, Middle East, **Zurich Insurance Company** 

Mr Peter Englund first came to the Middle East in the early 2000s and quickly fell in love with the region. Since then, he's become an instrumental part of shaping Zurich's footprint across the Middle East, building strong partnerships and a reputation for delivering through change.

Known for taking on complex challenges and turning them into success stories, he combines strategic focus with a hands-on approach. He surrounds himself with great teams and gives them space to perform something many see as the hallmark of his leadership.

Based in Dubai's DIFC, Mr Englund leads Zurich's Commercial Insurance business across the region, driving growth in reinsurance, specialty, and financial lines while strengthening the company's presence and reputation across the Middle East. Beyond Zurich, he's an active supporter of the region's InsurTech and innovation ecosystem, mentoring startups and advising earlystage ventures through his investor mindset and belief in nurturing local talent.

A former Swedish attack-diving unit leader, Mr Englund brings composure and teamwork into everything he does. He holds a Master's degree from the Royal Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's in Finance from the Stockholm School of Business.



**RENÉE MCGOWAN** CEO. Marsh McLennan India, Middle East & Africa

Based in Dubai, Ms Renée McGowan is Marsh McLennan's CEO for India, Middle East, and Africa, leading growth and innovation across Marsh, Guy Carpenter, Mercer, and Oliver Wyman. With extensive global leadership experience—including roles as Mercer's President for Asia, Middle East, and Africa, and key positions in New York, Hong Kong, London, Melbourne, Singapore, and Sydney—she is passionate about financial inclusion, girls' education, and advancing women, mentoring entrepreneurs through the Cherie Blair Foundation and StreetWise. A seasoned media spokesperson, she has been featured in major outlets like The Washington Post, Forbes, and CNBC, and published her first book, The Friday Email, in December 2023.



**SHANKAR GARIGIPARTHY** Former CEO, Lloyd's India

Mr Shankar Garigiparthy brings over 3 decades of financial service experience and has worked in developed markets like London and Singapore and also in developing markets like Qatar and India. He was instrumental in setting up Lloyd's India and was its CEO & Country Manager until July 2025. He is currently the Regional Manager, Africa, India and Middle East, and is supporting the development and implementation of commercial strategies, managing regional operations and fostering collaboration to achieve organisational goals. As CEO for Lloyd's India, Mr Garigiparthy was responsible for promoting Lloyd's to the Indian market and vice versa. He was a member of various regulatory working groups at IRDAI and IFSCA, to help develop a suitable regulatory framework for the reinsurance sector in India.

Prior to his move to India in 2016, Mr Garigiparthy was the Regional Compliance Manager for Lloyd's Asia and was a member of the Contract Certainty working group, which developed and implemented contract certainty within the reinsurance sector in Singapore.



VASILIS KATSIPIS SEO & General Manager, Market Development, AM Best

Mr Vasilis Katsipis is based in Dubai and is AM Best's SEO & General Manager, Market Development for MENA, South & Central Asia.

He has been with AM Best since 2011, having joined the company in London as managing senior financial analyst and growing to the position of general manager, analytics for EMEA. He has written several pieces focusing on insurance and regulation in Europe and the MENA region and has participated in international bodies focused on establishing global standards for insurance.

Prior to joining AM Best, Mr Katsipis was responsible for alternative distribution channels for GE Insurance Solutions. He has over 20 years of insurance and reinsurance experience, having focused on both the life and non-life sectors. He has held roles in high level operational and strategic positions. For most of his career, he held international positions with either regional or global responsibilities.

He holds an MBA from University of Wales and a BSc in Economics from Piraeus University.



YASSIR ALBAHARNA
Group CEO & Executive Director,
Trust Re

Mr Yassir Albaharna's career in reinsurance spans over 37 years, starting with Arab Insurance Group (Arig). He became its CEO in 2006 and stayed in the role until 2018. He then joined Trust Re as Vice Chairman in 2019 and became its Group CEO and Executive Director in 2021.

Mr Albaharna is also former President and board member of the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurers and Reinsurers (FAIR) in Cairo, former President and board member of the Association of Insurers and Reinsurers of Developing Countries (AIRDC) in Manila, member of the executive council of the International Insurance Society (IIS) in New York, Chairman of the FAIR nonlife reinsurance pool in Cairo, board member of the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) in London and board of trustees at Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF).

He was voted 'top 40 most influential people' in 2008 by Global Reinsurance magazine and in 2019 received a laureate Award from FAIR and was inducted into the FAIR Hall of Fame.

He has a Bachelor's degree in Engineering (Mechanical) from McGill University in Montreal and a dual Masters in Engineering (Manufacturing) and an MBA (High Honours) from Boston University. He is a Fellow and Chartered Insurer of the Chartered Insurance Institute.



YOLLA EL KHOURY CEO, ACE Gallagher Holding

A certified corporate director from Harvard Business School with over 29 years of experience in the insurance industry, Mrs Yolla El Khoury is a seasoned executive known for her strategic vision and operational excellence.

She began her career at Nicholson and Leslie before moving to AON London, where she excelled as a reinsurance broker managing significant accounts and businesses from the Middle East. Her expertise and leadership skills then took her to Cumberland Insurance in Lebanon, where she served as Deputy General Manager.

In 2010, she joined ACE Gallagher
Holding, transitioning from her role at the
Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance.
As Group Vice President, she was
instrumental in managing reinsurance
placements for ACE Gallagher's major
projects across regional and international
markets. Her exceptional performance
led to her promotion in 2019 to CEO and
board member of ACE Gallagher Holding.
She is also currently board member of
Gallagher DIFC and board member of
DIFC Insurance Association.

As CEO, Mrs El Khoury oversees the entire company's operations, ensuring alignment with shareholders' objectives and achieving growth targets. Her responsibilities encompass handling specific projects and contracts, resolving technical issues and fostering robust relationships with insurers and reinsurers.

She also provides comprehensive support to major clients and regional offices, enhancing brokerage systems, procedures, programmes and initiatives to drive profitable results.

Mrs El Khoury holds a BSc. (Hons) in Business Administration - Marketing from Notre Dame University and is a certified Harvard corporate director. She is also a Fellow and Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute and a chartered insurance practitioner. Fluent in French, English, and Arabic, she brings a global perspective and multilingual proficiency to her role.

### LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE YEAR

### **HAYAH Insurance Company**

HAYAH Insurance Company has established itself as a transformative force in the MENA region's life insurance sector. Following its 2022 rebranding from AXA Green Crescent, the company has achieved remarkable growth while maintaining its commitment to digital-first, customer-centric insurance solutions.

The company has demonstrated impressive market expansion, serving 4,466 individual life clients and 471 group life clients as of mid-2025, with year-over-year growth of 33% for individual policies and 17% for group coverage. HAYAH has generated AED69m (\$18.7m) in total premiums written by July 2025, while maintaining an exceptional 92% retention rate for group life insurance. Its flagship product, Your Employee Protect, serves nearly 500 corporate clients, including major banks and family conglomerates.

HAYAH's technological innovation distinguishes it from competitors. The company's Al-powered underwriting engine delivers on-the-spot decisions for 76% of applications, dramatically reducing the industry-standard 3-7 day waiting

period. Individual policies are issued in under three minutes, while group life onboarding takes just 15 minutes, setting new regional benchmarks for efficiency.

Operating with fewer than 50 employees, HAYAH competes effectively with insurers five times its size through technological agility and in-house expertise. The company retains a significant portion of underwriting risk internally, demonstrating confidence in its technical capabilities and building client trust.

HAYAH's commitment to inclusivity is reflected in pricing models that are agnostic to gender, age, nationality, and religion. Its Simple Life plan, starting at AED7 per month—less than the cost of three coffees annually—requires no medical checks, making life protection accessible to the UAE's diverse population.

Strategic partnerships amplify HAYAH's market reach, including collaborations with digital aggregators like Policybazaar and Shory, and global brokers including Aon, Marsh, and Willis. The company serves as the exclusive life provider with International Group Program in the region.

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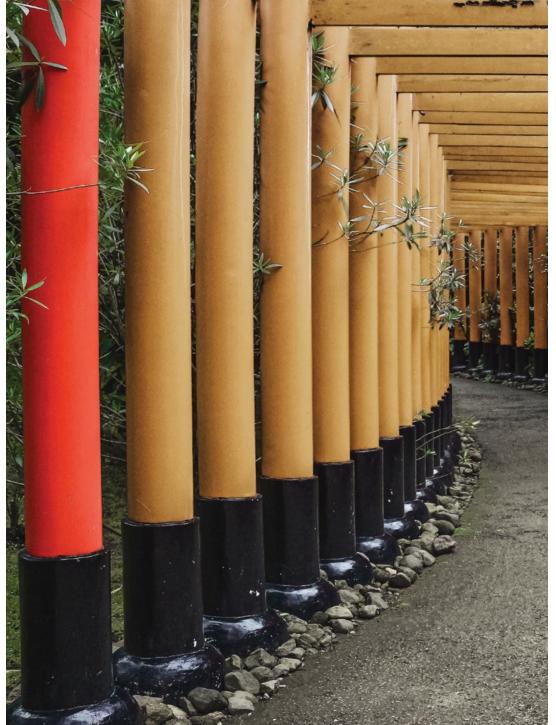


Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated (RGA) is a leader in the global life and health reinsurance industry, with approximately \$3.9tn of life reinsurance in force and assets of \$118.7bn as of 31 December 2024. With operations in key markets around the world, RGA supports domestic and multinational clients in more than 100 countries.

RGA is at the forefront of the industry, recognised for deep technical expertise in risk and capital management, innovative approaches, and an unwavering commitment to its clients. RGA specialises in individual and group life and health reinsurance and financial solutions. In collaboration with clients, RGA also provides complementary offerings to enhance their success, including facultative underwriting, product development, and data-driven digital solutions.

For more than 50 years, RGA has partnered with insurers to identify opportunities, address challenges, and develop competitive products and services. RGA puts this philosophy of partnership into practice every day, for every client, and in every region where it does business. Clients know that when they work with RGA, they are joining forces with industry experts dedicated to achieving results. From advances in underwriting to market-first capital structures, RGA helps clients improve their ability to assess risk profitably and meet the demands of a dynamic industry.

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As a dedicated partner, RGA works with clients through a listen-first immersive process to seize emerging opportunities, meet customer needs, and manage risk. We pave the way for progress to provide financial protection to all.

### GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE YEAR

### **GIG** Jordan

GIG Jordan has established itself as Jordan's most prominent insurer, maintaining market leadership for two decades through consistent growth, innovation, and financial excellence. In 2024, the company secured a commanding 16% market share while achieving 56% growth from 2018 to 2024—nearly double the overall market growth rate of 29%.

The company's financial performance stands out significantly, contributing 27% of total market profits while maintaining a combined ratio below 90%. GIG Jordan achieved a 19.15% RoE, 7% RoI, and a remarkable 246% increase in shareholder equity since 2017. GWP reached \$178m in 2024, representing 10.8% growth, while net profit after tax rose to \$14.2m.

GIG Jordan dominates multiple insurance segments, holding 27.7% of the medical insurance market and 12.1% of motor insurance. Despite entering life insurance only in 2021, the company has rapidly climbed to seventh position in that segment, demonstrating exceptional market agility.

Digital innovation distinguishes GIG Jordan's market approach. The company won the Fairfax 2022 Innovation Award for "GIG AutoParts," a pioneering digital motor claims platform. It launched Jordan's first fully in-house digital medical insurance solution, integrating onboarding, quotations, underwriting, e-consultations, and claims processing. The company's "Yalla GIG" loyalty programme represents Jordan's first comprehensive tech-driven rewards platform for insurance customers.

Strategic partnerships amplify GIG Jordan's impact, notably its collaboration with ZAIN Jordan creating the country's first telecom-operated InsurTech platform. This transformative initiative revolutionised digital insurance distribution across Jordan.

As part of GIG Group and backed by Fairfax Financial Holdings, GIG Jordan plays an increasingly strategic regional role, accounting for 6% of group premiums and 13.7% of profits in 2024, rising to 17.7% in 1Q2025.

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### **HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY** OF THE YEAR

### Cigna Healthcare Middle East and Africa (MEA)

Cigna Healthcare Middle East and Africa achieved exceptional performance in 2024, delivering 28% growth in top-line revenue and a remarkable 233% increase in earnings while maintaining strong client satisfaction across all product and service lines. This growth reflected strategic regional expansion, product transformation, and a sustained commitment to connected, purpose-led care experiences.

A significant leadership milestone occurred with Leah Cotterill's appointment as CEO for Cigna Healthcare MEA (excluding KSA), becoming the first woman to lead an international health insurer in the UAE. This appointment reinforced the organisation's focus on inclusive leadership and strengthened regional alignment.

SmartCare by Cigna, the UAE's first open-access health insurance solution launched in 2021, underwent comprehensive optimisation in 2024. The reimagined product features enhanced portfolio-level analytics, improved claims adjudication, and a substantially upgraded digital experience through the SmartCare app. Key features include UAE Pass integration, smart provider search, appointment booking, in-app claims submission, and telehealth consultations with e-prescriptions.

In Saudi Arabia, Cigna Insurance launched ClassicCare, a locally-tailored healthcare plan reflecting regulatory excellence and deep market understanding. The Saudi operation expanded to 71 team members, relocated to a state-of-the-art Riyadh facility, acquired 65 new clients, and renewed over 160 clients while maintaining a persistence rate above 90%. This growth aligns with Saudi Vision 2030's private sector development goals.

Africa witnessed transformative growth as Cigna shifted from commercial support to full-service healthcare operations. The regional team expanded from 85 to 408 employees, now anchored in Kenya and serving the continent from within. The operation expanded to 10 local insurance partners and launched localised claims, customer support, and clinical services, with a workforce representing over 60 languages.

Community engagement remained central to Cigna's mission. The Cigna Run & Fitness series attracted over 12,000 registrations across the UAE, while Connect for Health webinars provided free expert-led health education throughout the year. The Employee Benefits Plan roadshow in Dubai reached over 800 low-income and blue-collar workers, providing wellness checks, medical consultations, and multilingual support to enhance benefit literacy and healthcare access.

The 2024 Cigna International Health Study, launched in UAE and Kenya, provided detailed insights into employee wellbeing across five domains, informing strategic discussions with CEO and HR leaders throughout the region and positioning employee health as a strategic organisational

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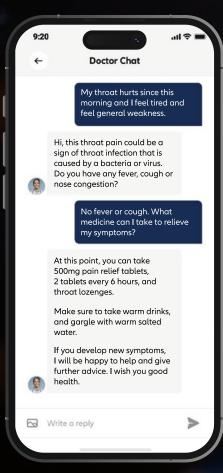




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### TPA OF THE YEAR

### **NAS Neuron Health Services**

Nas Neuron Health Services (NNHS) has established itself as one of the UAE's most forward-thinking third-party administrators since the landmark merger of NAS and Neuron in 2019. In June 2025, the company achieved a historic milestone of reaching 2m members, serving over 50 payers, 200 brokers, and 17 reinsurers whilst maintaining operational excellence and driving improved health outcomes.

The company demonstrated exceptional operational performance, processing and paying over AED5.85bn (\$1.6bn) in claims during 2024, issuing more than 12m approvals across inpatient, outpatient, and pharmacy services, and handling over 20m direct billing and reimbursement transactions. NNHS maintained a 100% client renewal rate and an 85%+ persistency ratio across its portfolio, with major clients including DEWA, Gems Education, RAK Bank, Landmark Group, Etisalat, Du, and Damac.

Customer satisfaction reached impressive levels, with NNHS achieving 89.3% C-SAT and 61.1% NPS year-to-date, placing the company in the top 10% of the industry. The organisation received over 110 documented appreciations from members, clients, and brokers, reflecting strong stakeholder trust.

Technological innovation distinguished NNHS's approach. The company integrated its first AI large language model for policy onboarding and configuration, upgraded rule engines

for faster adjudication, and implemented UAE Pass and Multi-Factor Authentication. Enhanced reimbursement workflows resulted in a 25% improvement in handling time, whilst multiple aggregator and broker integrations significantly reduced onboarding turnaround time.

In 1Q2025, NNHS unveiled a comprehensive post-merger visual rebranding, creating a unified premium brand identity that received overwhelmingly positive market feedback. This transformation strengthened both external perception and internal unity.

The company's commitment to excellence extended to its workforce, achieving Great Place to Work certification in December 2024. NNHS grew its workforce by over 10%, invested over 8,800 hours in learning and development, and embraced diversity with 33 nationalities represented and a 48% female workforce whilst surpassing national Emiratisation targets.

NNHS achieved ISO 27001:2022 and ISO 22301:2019 certifications in January 2025, demonstrating robust governance and security frameworks. The company's wellness programmes created measurable impact, hosting over 450 events in 2024 that reached 35,000+ lives, including exclusive partnerships with key government entities such as The Executive Council of Dubai.

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Fidelity United Insurance is a UAE-based insurance company. Since commencing operations in 1976, the company has steadily grown and rebranded as Fidelity United in 2018 following a strategic partnership with Fidelity Assurance & Reinsurance SARL.

Fidelity United is licensed by the UAE Central Bank to offer both consumer and commercial insurance solutions, including motor, health, property, marine, engineering, liability and employee benefits. The company also provides travel, home, and pet insurance, serving the diverse needs of individuals and businesses across the UAE.

Fidelity United is listed on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX), reflecting its commitment to transparency and strong corporate governance. Fidelity Assurance & Reinsurance and Ghobash Group are the major shareholders of the company.

With over four decades in the market, Fidelity United has established itself as a trusted name in the UAE insurance sector, recognized for its reliability and client-centric focus.

www.fidelityunited.ae





United Fidelity Insurance is a UAE-based insurance company. Since commencing operations in 1976, the company has steadily grown and rebranded as Fidelity United in 2018 following a strategic partnership with Fidelity Assurance & Reinsurance SARL.



Fidelity United is licensed by the UAE Central Bank to offer both consumer and commercial insurance solutions, including motor, health, property, marine, engineering, liability and employee benefits. The company also provides travel, home, and pet insurance, serving the diverse needs of individuals and businesses across the UAE.





With over four decades in the market. Fidelity United has established itself as a trusted name in the **UAE** insurance sector, recognized for its reliability and clientcentric focus.



















### MANAGING GENERAL AGENT OF THE YEAR

### **Arma Underwriting Limited**

Arma Underwriting has established itself as a leading MGA in the MENA region since its inception in 2017. Licensed by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA) and headquartered in Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), the company has redefined underwriting excellence through outstanding results, data-driven decision-making, and industry-leading operational models.

Arma has achieved exceptional financial performance, writing over AED850m (\$231m) in premiums to date whilst maintaining an impressive Gross Earned Loss Ratio under 40%. This consistent delivery of sustainable profitability has established Arma as a trusted platform for local markets seeking access to rated capacity and a preferred partner for reinsurance providers.

The company's market reach is unmatched, serving over 200 cedants and brokers whilst writing more than 3,000 policies annually. Arma operates across commercial and consumer lines including Energy, Property, Liability, and Accident & Health. The company has successfully processed over AED300m in incurred claims across 14,000+ claims, building a reputation for responsiveness and fairness in claims handling.

Industry recognition validates Arma's excellence, with the company becoming the first MGA outside the UK to be recognised as an international Professional Partnership Firm.

The recent acquisition by Nexus Underwriting, a Brown & Brown group business, highlights Arma's strong performance and reputation, strategically positioning the company to accelerate ambitious growth plans across the region.

Arma maintains elite capacity partnerships as an approved Lloyd's coverholder with long-term binder authority relationships with Hiscox, Allied World, Chaucer, Brit, Tokio Marine Kiln, Talbot, Canopius, MCI, and several A-rated markets. The company offers substantial capacity across key lines, including Property (\$25m), Workers Compensation (\$35m), Employers Liability (\$35m), Public Liability (\$35m), and Downstream Energy (\$20m).

The company's innovative three-pillar business model—"The Arma Way"—distinguishes its approach. This includes providing facultative reinsurance capacity on a per-risk basis, offering advisory services to enhance portfolio profitability, and delivering a unique Client Services Suite providing valueadded services free of charge to selected clients.

Arma's technological sophistication includes an in-house developed analytics platform built from the ground up, enabling data-driven underwriting decisions and real-time analytics dashboards providing insights into pricing adequacy, capacity utilisation, portfolio performance, and actuarial triangulations. This data-driven approach, combined with strong governance frameworks and actuarial expertise, positions Arma as a model MGA setting standards for the industry worldwide.

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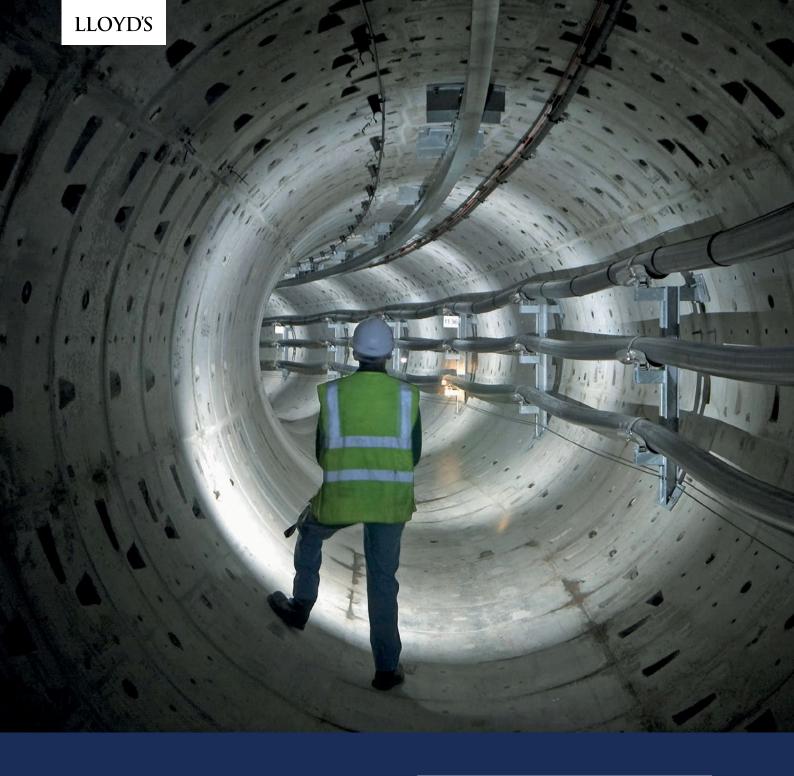
Lloyd's is the world's leading insurance and reinsurance market for global risk. Through the collective intelligence and expertise of the network's underwriters and brokers, we connect risk to capital, provide global access to trading partners across borders, and innovative solutions that protect societies and businesses worldwide.

The Lloyd's market is made up of over 50 leading insurance companies, more than 400 registered brokers and a global network of over 2,900 local coverholders. That reach is extended by the global licenses and regulatory permissions we hold, which enable customers to access insurance solutions in 80 countries, reinsurance solutions in 100 countries and offshore reinsurance in over 200 territories.

In 2024, the Lloyd's market underwrote GBP55.5bn (\$72.8bn) in insurance premiums, backed by over GBP100bn of centrally held capital. It underwrites risk spread by syndication and its financial strength is amplified by a strong balance sheet, excellent credit ratings, and a chain of security.

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### **EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INITIATIVE** OF THE YEAR

### Corporate Risk Management Institute (CRMI)

The Corporate Risk Management Institute (CRMI), established in 2019 through a partnership between Chedid Capital and London's Institute of Risk Management (IRM), has evolved from a focused education provider into a regional catalyst for risk education, strategic resilience, and governance capacity-building across the Middle East and Africa (MEA). The Institute has expanded its mission beyond traditional Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) to encompass specialised areas in reinsurance, finance, ESG, and cybersecurity.

A transformative milestone occurred in February 2025 when CRMI was designated an Approved Professional Development Centre by the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII). Following a stringent qualification and credential assessment process, CRMI now delivers CII-accredited technical courses across Lebanon, Qatar, the UAE, and online, including core modules such as W01 and M92. The Institute has democratised access to accredited programmes for regional talent, offering flexible registration for individual courses or full-diploma paths through online or in-person learning.

In January 2025, CRMI entered a strategic partnership with Montpellier Business School, a leading French Grande École, to develop professional programmes ranging from undergraduate to Executive MBA levels for decision-makers in ministries, central banks, and corporations across MEA. These programmes combine European academic rigour with region-specific content addressing challenges including ESG, cybersecurity, climate-related risk, supply chain continuity, and GRC.

CRMI demonstrated thought leadership by organising the Lebanese Association of Actuaries (LAA) 2025 Conference in Beirut, themed "Advancing AI & Reinsurance in Risk Management." The Institute led both design and technical execution, creating dedicated registration platforms and managing complete event infrastructure whilst bringing together high-profile regional and international experts.

The Institute's flagship ESA-IRM certificate in Risk Management for Insurance and Reinsurance Professionals delivered its third cohort in May 2025, maintaining strong uptake and high participant ratings since launching in December 2022. CRMI expanded bespoke corporate training, delivering risk governance, insurance, and customised workshops for partners including Qatar Central Bank, Arab Bank, and the Consortium of Lebanese Enterprises.

CRMI developed a proprietary learning management platform accommodating multilingual cohorts and customisable learning profiles, now being prepared for external commercial offering. The Institute broadened consultancy services, offering GRC, Asset-Liability Management (ALM), and Risk-Adjusted Return on Capital (RAROC) advisory to public and private institutions.

Leveraging Chedid Capital's infrastructure of 82 subsidiaries across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia, CRMI launched its French-speaking African counterpart, A2GR (Académie de la Gouvernance et la Gestion des Risques), in 2020, now actively positioning itself amongst public institutions across 21 countries.

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Founded in 1899, AM Best is the world's largest credit rating agency specialising in the insurance industry. Headquartered in the United States, the company does business in over 100 countries with regional offices in London, Amsterdam, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore and Mexico City. AM Best expanded its coverage in MENA in the last two decades, becoming the pre-eminent rating agency for (re)insurers in the region. Our MENA, South and Central Asia office, established in the Dubai International Financial Centre, serves clients throughout the region and develops new relationships with both start-ups and established companies.

AM Best Rating Services assesses the creditworthiness of and/or reports on over 16,000 insurance companies worldwide. Our commentary, research and analysis provide additional insight.

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### TAKAFUL COMPANY OF THE YEAR

### **Qatar Islamic Insurance Group**

Qatar Islamic Insurance Group: Leading Takaful Innovation and Market Excellence

Qatar Islamic Insurance Group (QIIG) has established itself as a pioneering force in the takaful industry, celebrating over 31 years as Qatar's first takaful company. The organisation's legacy has shaped the market, paving the way for six competitors who followed its lead, whilst maintaining its position as the benchmark for shariah-compliant insurance in the region.

The company leads the takaful sector in Qatar with approximately 29% market share, ranking amongst the best in the nation and broader region for insurance revenue and net profit. In 2024, GWP reached QAR551m (\$151m), whilst combined equity grew to QAR708m (\$194m).

The company's unwavering commitment to shariah principles is evidenced by its continuous distribution of surplus to policyholders since its first year of operation, with total declared surplus exceeding \$100m since 1995. A dedicated three-member Sharia Supervisory Board oversees all operations, ensuring full compliance with Islamic principles across all business aspects.

QIIG's product innovation addresses diverse market needs through over 50 insurance products. Recent launches include a fully digitalised SME medical insurance platform enabling instant quotation generation, a critical illness product

developed with MGEN VYV Group Reinsurance offering up to \$2m coverage for treatment in Europe, and communitybased life insurance providing accessible coverage for lowto middle-income individuals. The company also introduced cyber insurance for SMEs, addressing the rising threat of cyberattacks with comprehensive, affordable, Shariacompliant protection.

Digital transformation has become a key growth driver, with the company's digital platform now generating over 20% of revenue. The mandatory visitor health insurance portal, launched in response to government requirements in February 2023, enables instant, convenient policy purchases for travellers.

QIIG maintains strategic international presence through investments in takaful companies across Pakistan, Syria, and Morocco, extending its influence globally. The company maintains robust reinsurance partnerships with 'A' rated partners, including SCOR Paris (leading proportional treaties for over 28 years) and Swiss Re (leading non-proportional treaties).

The organisation consistently records amongst the highest technical profits in the market, demonstrating sound underwriting practices and prudent risk management whilst serving all segments of society and the comprehensive needs of Qatar's commercial sector.

## OF THE YEAR

### **HAYAH Insurance Company**

HAYAH Insurance Company has established itself as the UAE's digital life insurer, building its entire operating model around leveraging new technologies across front-end, backend, and every operational step. The company demonstrates how a small, agile insurer can achieve substantial impact through intelligent digitalisation, competing strongly in a market dominated by legacy players whilst maintaining operational efficiency with fewer than 50 employees.

HAYAH's digital transformation delivers industry-leading speed and simplicity. Individual life products can be quoted, underwritten, and issued in under three minutes, whilst group life onboarding and policy issuance completed in as little as 15 minutes. These benchmarks directly support higher conversion and retention rates, contributing to impressive growth of 4,466 individual life policies, 5,663 health insurance policies, and 471 group life clients as of June 2025.

The company's AI-powered medical underwriting engine represents a transformative advancement, instantly processing 76% of applications on the spot—far exceeding the typical three-to-seven-day turnaround times in the local market. For complex cases, HAYAH integrates directly with medical partners, offering nurse home visits and direct billing to ensure seamless, cost-neutral experiences for customers.

HAYAH has deployed Manal, an advanced Natural Language Model chatbot, internally to support teams in retrieving product, process, and claims information instantly. This Al tool reduces time spent searching through static documents, enabling employees to respond faster, boost productivity, and focus on value-added human-driven tasks, with plans for broader customer-facing deployment in coming months.

The company's distribution portal provides partners with advanced, fully integrated functionality managing the entire onboarding journey from quotation to policy issuance. The portal verifies personal data through direct integration with the DHA platform, handles medical underwriting through automated AI tools, and finalises policy activation via TPA system integration. HAYAH is the only insurer in the UAE offering this level of real-time automation and cross-platform connectivity.

HAYAH's digital infrastructure includes secure electronic KYC for automatic identity verification, continuous due diligence, anti-money laundering compliance, and fraud prevention, whilst Magnati payment integration ensures secure, fast, and convenient transactions. The company extends its digital capabilities beyond protection through practical tools including an online pensions calculator, supporting long-term financial wellbeing planning.

Measurable results validate HAYAH's approach: a 92% retention rate for group life portfolios, 33% growth in individual life and 17% in group life, whilst maintaining cost-effective operations and trusted partnerships with major aggregators, global brokers, and internationally recognised partners.

### INSURTECH OF THE YEAR

### ReTech Reinsurance Brokers Co.

ReTech Reinsurance Brokers Co. has established itself as a technology-driven platform revolutionising reinsurance transactions throughout the MENA region. The company enables insurers and reinsurers to interact through a unified digital ecosystem, integrating intelligent automation, regulatory compliance, and real-time data access whilst streamlining workflows and ensuring alignment with local and international standards.

A landmark achievement came with ReTech's swift implementation of a compliance solution addressing Saudi Insurance Authority Circular 296 in 2024. This regulation mandated that cedants offer 30% of each reinsurance placement to local reinsurers with comprehensive documentation and quarterly reporting requirements. ReTech's purpose-built compliance module enabled over 30 insurance companies to achieve full compliance within just two quarters, demonstrating tangible impact on enhancing regulatory adherence and operational efficiency across the Saudi market.

ReTech's comprehensive platform delivers measurable business impact, reducing placement cycle time by 45% whilst achieving 70% automation across core workflows. The integrated Enterprise Resource Planning system, marketplace matching engine, and automated accounting and claims processing provide speed, transparency, and operational control through structured stakeholder portals and clientspecific dashboards.

The platform's end-to-end digital workflow capabilities cover treaty and facultative placements, from initial placement through renewal. The local capacity module automates offers to Saudi reinsurers, providing instant notifications and

maintaining a complete digital audit trail for regulatory reporting. Cloud-based document repositories ensure secure storage and instant retrieval of all placement documentation, contracts, and correspondence. ReTech addresses critical industry gaps that have traditionally plaqued reinsurance operations. By replacing manual workflows and reconciliation delays with automated processes, the platform eliminates fragmented reinsurer communication and provides comprehensive visibility with complete audit trails. The cloud-native architecture was specifically tailored to regional and international reinsurance nuances, effectively resolving legacy issues.

The platform features structured access portals providing role-based interfaces for insurers, reinsurers, and internal teams, alongside automated bordereaux and reporting capabilities generating real-time premium and claims bordereaux with minimal manual intervention. This comprehensive digital oversight ensures all stakeholders remain informed, capable of acting quickly, and compliant with regulatory requirements.

ReTech's strategic vision aligns with Saudi Vision 2030, positioning the company as a national enabler toward global expansion. Future roadmap initiatives include expanding presence across MENA regions with localised compliance modules, introducing blockchain-backed smart contracts for automated claims, and continuing enhancement of multilingual and cross-border placement capabilities. Through blending deep local market insight with global reinsurance access, ReTech delivers intelligent solutions built for a digital-first future.

### STRATEGIC PARTNER TO THE INDUSTRY

### **BADRI Management Consultancy**

BADRI Management Consultancy has evolved into a global consulting firm providing diverse services to clients across the Middle East and beyond. With over 200 talented staff spread across UAE, KSA, Pakistan, Egypt, and the UK, the company drives innovation and delivers cutting-edge solutions, specialising in actuarial services whilst integrating offerings in Financial Services, Strategic HR consulting, Data Management, and Business Intelligence.

BADRI serves as appointed actuaries for 27 clients across the GCC and has served more than 130 unique clients to date, with clientele spread across MENA including UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Egypt, Africa, and New Zealand. The company achieved turnover of AED22.2m (\$6m) in 2024, representing growth from AED21.1m in 2023, whilst expanding staff strength from 156 to 206 professionals, and operational presence from five to seven cities.

The company's flagship innovation, ACE-17 Financial Reporting System, offers seamless, cost-effective solutions for generating IFRS 17 financials and disclosures, meeting PAA, GMM, and VFA requirements. BADRI proactively expanded ACE-17 with additional systems including PAA Eligibility Testing and Planning and Budgeting capabilities, demonstrating adaptability to evolving industry requirements.

BADRI's Risk Management Team helps clients implement Enterprise Risk Management Frameworks whilst delivering regulatory requirements for the UAE insurance industry including ORSA Reports and Recovery Planning Documents.

The company integrated Environmental, Social, and Governance advisory support aligned with IFRS S1 and S2, enhancing client sustainability practices. Business Intelligence solutions include actuarial technical pricing tools and readyto-deploy dashboard solutions powered by Power BI and Qlik

BADRI demonstrates thought leadership through multiple channels. The Annual Conference 2024 attracted over 140 participants from more than 55 companies. The company served as platinum sponsor for the Society of Actuaries Regional Symposium in Riyadh and participated in the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries Middle East conference.

Strategic alliances amplify service delivery, including partnerships with métier for Strategic HR Consulting, Qlik for business dashboards, addactis for pricing and capital modelling, and Limitless Consulting for Risk Management. BADRI publishes comprehensive research reports across multiple markets alongside "The Vitals" medical newsletter, now in its 26th edition.

### CORPORATE RISK MANAGER OF THE YEAR



### Mr Majed Al Marzooqi Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)

Mr Majed Al Marzooqi, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company's (ADNOC) Vice President of Corporate Insurance, has demonstrated exceptional leadership across over 20 years in the insurance sector, specialising in energy, oil and gas, and nuclear insurance. His career trajectory reflects consistent achievement in managing complex, high-value insurance programmes whilst promoting safety culture and operational excellence.

Mr Al Marzooqi's early career saw him managing insurance profiles for ADNOC GAS from 2005 to 2012, supervising insurance risk engineering programmes at Das Island for three LNG trains and mitigating risks associated with LNG/ LPG shipments from the UAE globally. From 2012 to 2020, he led international insurance roadshows for the UAE's nuclear programme as Insurance Manager at Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation, marketing the first Nuclear Power Plant in the Arab World valued at over \$22bn across four nuclear units in Abu Dhabi.

His landmark achievements include establishing the UAE Nuclear Insurance Pool as the first nuclear insurance pool in the region, providing local nuclear insurance capacity whilst encouraging local insurance company participation and supporting In-Country Value initiatives. He successfully managed the construction insurance programme for the Barakah nuclear project, including risk engineering, nuclear fuel transportation and loading risk mitigation, and financial risk transfer during testing and commissioning.

Mr Al Marzooqi prepared and executed the first nuclear commercial operation insurance programme in the UAE and Middle East, encompassing nuclear property, marine cargo for fuel, and nuclear third-party liability.

Since joining ADNOC headquarters in 2020, Mr Al Marzooqi manages and drives development and implementation of corporate risk financing and risk engineering programmes across the ADNOC Group. He serves as a Board member on ADNOC Reinsurance Company and chairs the risk committee, leading insurance programmes for operational assets valued at over \$300bn across more than 30 locations whilst handling insurance coverage for construction activities exceeding \$31bn.

Mr Al Marzooqi established the ADNOC Group Insurance System on SAP, achieving digital transformation through IT platform integration across all ADNOC Group companies. He created and led the ADNOC Treasury Excellence Programme, a training and work placement platform engaging over 25 employees since 2022 with local and international insurance brokers, companies, and risk management consultants. His leadership of ADNOC's insurance transformation programme supports international expansion, managing assets across USA, Canada, Germany, Australia, Egypt, and the UAE whilst implementing long-term reinsurance agreements and construction insurance facilities to support profitability.

### LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

### Clyde & Co

Clyde & Co has established itself as the leading insurance law firm in the Middle East, distinguished as the only firm ranked Band 1 for Insurance in the UAE by both Chambers and Legal 500. With insurance roots dating to 1933 and Middle East presence since 1989, the firm has invested over 30 years building market-leading practice tailored to the region's evolving needs.

The firm maintains the largest and most experienced insurance team in the region, with 10 partners and 15 lawyers in the UAE focusing exclusively on insurance. The team brings over 100 years of combined local experience, offering unique insight into regulatory and commercial market dynamics whilst serving global and regional insurers, reinsurers, brokers, managing agents, intermediaries, multinational corporates, and regulators.

Clyde & Co stands alone as the only law firm in the UAE and wider Middle East offering true subject matter expertise across every insurance class. The team includes dedicated specialists in P&C, Financial Lines, Cyber, Energy and Construction, Marine, Trade Credit and Political Risks, Medical Malpractice, Corporate and Regulatory matters, Transactional/Warranty and Indemnity, Health, (Re)Takaful, Life, and Subrogation.

Recent landmark achievements include leading all major insurance jurisdictional cases before DIFC Courts, shaping future claims litigation, and advising on authorisation of foreign insurance branches in Saudi Arabia. The firm

maintains ongoing involvement in most DIFC, ADGM, and KSA insurance establishments whilst advising on numerous mergers and acquisitions transactions and portfolio transfers across the region.

High-profile matters include advising Zurich Insurance Group on its acquisition of AIG's global personal travel insurance business across over 40 jurisdictions, advising Nexus Underwriting on its acquisition of Arma Underwriting Limited, and advising Abu Dhabi National Takaful Company on portfolio acquisition from Dubai Islamic Insurance & Reinsurance Company. The firm successfully defended insurers and reinsurers in the first Saudi Arabia precedent related to COVID-19 business interruption claims worth SAR287m (\$76.5m).

Clyde & Co's commitment to excellence extends beyond legal representation. The firm proactively adapts to evolving client needs through regional expansion with new offices in Jeddah and Cairo, offering no-win, no-fee subrogation recovery services, providing specialised debt recovery solutions for trade credit insurers, delivering end-to-end cyber response support, and offering fixed-fee structures for casualty and medical malpractice insurers. The team regularly contributes to industry publications and events, hosting regional forums including the Financial Lines Forum and Claims Manager Roundtable whilst maintaining recognition as Insurance Law Firm of the Year at multiple regional awards.

### **BROKER OF THE YEAR**

### Howden Middle East & Africa

Howden Middle East & Africa (Howden MEA) has distinguished itself through consistent market-leading growth whilst maintaining a people-first culture that has transformed the regional broking landscape. The company's employee-owned structure enables colleagues to become shareholders, fostering a culture valuing trust over control, purpose over process, and impact over hierarchy.

The firm's commitment to workplace excellence has been recognised through multiple Great Place to Work certifications, with the Oman office joining Dubai and Abu Dhabi operations in achieving this distinction. This recognition reflects Howden MEA's success in attracting top talent from competitors, with professionals choosing an organisation where decisions are made close to clients and collaboration defines daily operations rather than remaining mere corporate rhetoric.

Howden MEA has positioned insurance as a force for good, actively building sustainability offerings supported by the company's global Climate, Risk and Resilience practice—now the largest in the market. The firm helps businesses navigate climate risk whilst supporting sustainable finance solution development, using insurance to drive real-world change.

Innovation at Howden MEA focuses on substance over show, designing products and services solving real client challenges. The firm launched bespoke cyber insurance specifically tailored for small and medium-sized enterprises, a historically underserved segment. The offering delivers broad coverage

with minimal underwriting complexity and highly competitive premiums, achieving extraordinary uptake across various industrial sectors. Howden MEA served as strategic partner at the UAE Government Cyber Security Summit, affirming leadership in this critical space.

The company became the first broker in the region launching a dedicated Asset Management Division serving hedge funds, family offices, private equity, and venture capital firms. This sophisticated client base receives tailored, high-impact solutions reflecting deep sector knowledge and proactive advisory approaches, establishing Howden MEA as market leader in this segment.

International recognition came through invitation to join the Lord Mayor of the City of London's delegation on an official Middle East visit, acknowledging regional operations as outstanding examples of British insurance excellence abroad. As principal sponsor of the British and Irish Lions, Howden demonstrates global scale whilst maintaining local client

Howden MEA's success stems from leading with empathy, building genuine partnerships with clients and insurers, innovating with purpose, investing in people, moving fast unburdened by bureaucracy, and bringing heart to operations. The firm recognises that culture and care remain as important as capital and coverage, redefining what winning means in regional insurance broking.

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Established in 1962 in Kuwait, Gulf Insurance Group is one of the largest and most diversified insurance groups in the Middle East and North Africa with operations in life, non-life and takaful insurance. As a regional insurance powerhouse, the group enjoys a strong competitive market position in Kuwait, Bahrain, Jordan and Egypt and excellent operational footprints in UAE, KSA, Turkey, Algeria, Qatar, Oman, Iraq and Lebanon with reported consolidated assets of \$4.01 bn as of 31 December 2024.

Over 60 years of operational excellence, GIG has established itself as a leader and pioneer in the insurance industry by offering innovative and high-quality products and services that are tailored to meet the unique needs of our valued stakeholders. With more than 100 branches, 4,100 employees and 3.5m customers, GIG is delivering unprecedented growth for a sustainable future.

GIG has attained a competitive edge in its markets through the implementation of a comprehensive approach involving the latest IT services, innovation in products and distribution, strong customer relations management and robust enterprise risk management. Furthermore, GIG utilises the best standards in corporate governance, prudent underwriting practices, and its decentralised business model focusing on human capital development and digitisation.

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### REINSURANCE BROKER OF THE YEAR

### SHIELDS Reinsurance Brokers

SHIELDS Reinsurance Brokers achieved exceptional performance over the past year, delivering 75% revenue growth whilst expanding into 21 markets and setting new benchmarks for client acquisition, retention, and satisfaction. Guided by the motto "Because we care," the firm has transformed from transactional broker into trusted strategic partner viewed by clients as extensions of their reinsurance teams.

The company's exceptional metrics demonstrate real results: a 58% facultative conversion ratio reflecting underwriting acumen and strong market access, over 90% client retention secured through consistent delivery and deep engagement, and multi-line expansion across Property and Marine, Engineering and Energy, Liability, Political Violence, Cyber, and Treaty business spanning 21 global markets.

SHIELDS' success stems from deliberate, forward-looking strategy emphasising proactive market engagement through weekly interactions and regular client visits, expert broking talent combining underwriting background with placement mastery, cross-selling synergy delivering consolidated service, and technical depth through in-house actuarial support enabling detailed financial analysis and optimal retention strategies.

The firm's client-centric innovation revolves around personalised solutions beginning with tailored exposure and goal analysis, integrated placement support through cross-functional teams, structured account management with formal portfolio reviews, dedicated claims advocacy ensuring early intervention and resolute support, transparent communication with clear documentation on structure and pricing, and robust compliance with multi-layered security protecting client data.

Technology and process excellence distinguish SHIELDS' operations. The proprietary "OMEGA" AI platform enhances workflow accuracy and performance monitoring, achieving 50% reduction in document review time, 40% improvement in quality control error rates, and 35% decrease in client pack turnaround time. Advanced risk modelling through RMS, Verisk, and CatRisk tools supports granular account-level analysis, whilst data-driven negotiation provides real-time insights supporting optimal pricing even in hard markets.

A landmark power plant construction project exemplified SHIELDS' cross-team collaboration capabilities. The engagement required multi-disciplinary reinsurance solutions spanning Professional Indemnity, Marine Cargo, Third-Party Liability, and Political Violence coverage. The Construction team led initial engagement whilst coordinating with Marine, Liability, and Political Violence specialists, resulting in unified placement strategy reducing friction between lines, streamlined client communication, comprehensive risk profiles improving market reception, and strengthened internal collaboration serving as blueprint for future infrastructure placements.

Team development remains central to SHIELDS' philosophy, with 50% male and 50% female workforce representing 12 nationalities. Ongoing professional training ensures teams remain at industry knowledge forefront, whilst mentorship programmes share expertise and instil highest professionalism standards. Client testimonials consistently praise SHIELDS' technical expertise, market access, proactive approach, and commitment to advocacy.

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Qatar Insurance Company (QIC Group, QIC) is a leading, publicly listed composite insurer with over 60 years of legacy, founded in 1964 as Qatar's first domestic insurance company. Headquartered in Doha, QIC has expanded beyond its national roots to become a major insurer in the MENA region and holds a robust international presence across the GCC, United Kingdom, Europe, and Asia. The company is listed on the Qatar Stock Exchange, boasting a market capitalization exceeding QAR 7bn (\$1.9bn), and is recognized among the region's largest insurers by written premiums, profitability, and total assets.

QIC's leadership is distinguished by its financial strength, strategic agility, and commitment to innovation. The Group adeptly navigates global economic challenges and natural catastrophes, underpinned by its focus on digitalisation, InsurTech, and customer-centric service models. Strong governance, forward-thinking risk management, and operational efficiency continue to drive its sustainable growth.

Demonstrating industry leadership in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance, QIC became the first MENA insurer to sign the UNEP Finance Initiative-Principles for Sustainable Insurance in 2022 and, in 2025, earned a AAA MSCI Provisional ESG Rating, the first in the region. QIC is also ICV (In-Country Value) Certified, supporting local value creation and national development. The company's financial credibility is reinforced by credit ratings of 'A' (Excellent) from A.M. Best and 'A-' from Standard & Poor's.

By investing strategically in technology, talent, and innovation, QIC continues to advance the insurance sector and support a vision for a diversified, knowledge-based economy.

www.qicuae.com



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### Regional and Global Presence

QIC has a robust footprint in the Middle East and international markets: Headquartered in Doha, Qatar, with regional presence in the UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. International Offices in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Malta and Bermuda. Subsidiaries/Brands include: QIC Insured, QIC UAE, Antares (UK), QLM Life & Medical Insurance.

#### **UAE Operations**

Operating in the UAE since 1968, QIC offers a full spectrum of insurance solutions from its offices in Dubai (Dubai Hills) and Abu Dhabi (Muroor Road). Its experienced local team provides underwriting, claims handling, and customer service tailored to UAE clients.



www.qic-group.com

#### **AWARDS**

Financial Strength: A- (Excellent) by S&P and A.M. Best









### LIFE REINSURER OF THE YEAR

### Reinsurance Group of America (RGA)

Reinsurance Group of America Middle East (RGA ME) has demonstrated exceptional achievement throughout 2024, building upon a remarkable 14-year legacy of sustained growth in the region. The reinsurer currently holds treaties with over 104 cedents and executed more than 120 new reinsurance agreements in 2024, representing record growth in new business value.

Globally, RGA has established itself as one of the world's largest and most respected life and health reinsurers, ending 2024 with \$3.9tn of life reinsurance in force and \$118.7bn in assets. The company's success is reflected in its ranking at #196 on the 2025 Fortune 500, having climbed 125 positions since its debut in 2010. RGA's mortality and morbidity databases rank amongst the largest globally, and the company achieved the #1 rating for risk appetite across all categories in NMG Consulting's 2024 Global Life & Health Reinsurance Study.

Within the Middle East specifically, RGA secured the number one ranking for business capability in NMG Consulting's 2024 survey of 46 insurers across GCC countries. The company achieved a 14% increase in underwriting volume whilst maintaining an impressive 24-hour turnaround in 91% of cases, demonstrating operational excellence alongside growth.

RGA ME's innovative achievements include becoming

the first life reinsurer in the region to integrate video micro-expression recognition technology using remote photoplethysmography for risk assessment. The company successfully managed the UAE's largest government fully insured/reinsured scheme through a structured reinsurance treaty, alleviating significant solvency pressure on the cedant.

The company's AURA UWPal digital underwriting engine has continued expanding throughout the region, improving partners' underwriting efficiency. RGA ME has also developed comprehensive solutions including preunderwritten health insurance plans, financing solutions for long-term products, and insurance plans specifically designed for parents and retirees.

Educational initiatives have been particularly successful, with RGA ME's 12th Annual Underwriting Seminar attracting participants from across the GCC region and Egypt. The Global Underwriting Manual received 695,000 unique logins in 2024, whilst the Global Claims Manual expanded with 11 new courses and launched a comprehensive Claims Mental Health Toolkit.

These achievements collectively demonstrate RGA ME's position as a pioneering industry leader, combining operational excellence with client-centric innovation and meaningful contributions to regional industry development.



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### **GENERAL REINSURER OF THE YEAR**

### Saudi Reinsurance Company (Saudi Re)

Saudi Re, the Kingdom's home-grown reinsurer, achieved exceptional performance in 2024, demonstrating robust growth and strengthened financial position whilst forming strategic partnerships with the Public Investment Fund (PIF). The company achieved Gross Written Premiums of SAR2.3bn (\$613m), reflecting 48% year-on-year increase and maintaining a strong compound annual growth rate of 24% since 2019. Net profit reached an all-time high of SAR475m, supported by solid RoE of 41%. Saudi Re's share price reached its highest level to date, establishing the company amongst top-performing entities on the Saudi Stock Exchange.

This performance reflects stakeholder confidence in governance, disciplined execution, and contribution to Saudi Arabia's economic diversification. The company successfully increased paid-up capital to SAR1.15bn through strategic subscription securing 23.08% stake from PIF, with board recommendation for further 46.6% capital increase to SAR1.698bn via bonus shares.

Product innovation distinguished Saudi Re's market approach. Through strategic PIF partnership, the company launched Surety Bond insurance unique to the region,

providing viable alternatives to bank financial guarantees for major national projects and generate significant new premium streams. The reinsurer has complemented this with a nationwide surety bond education campaign and specialised seminars for the industry.

Saudi Re also pioneered Employer Default Insurance in collaboration with the Ministry of HRSD, protecting financial rights of over 7m foreign workers and reinforcing labour market stability. Inherent Defects Insurance protected thousands of buildings across the Kingdom, boosting construction quality standards.

In 2025, Saudi Re earned Great Place to Work certification, reflecting commitment to becoming the best workplace in Saudi Arabia's insurance sector. The Future Leaders Programme provides structured one-year training for fresh graduates, whilst the Internship programme achieved 29% conversion rate from interns to full-time roles. The company's reinsurance placement platform, esnad, enables insurers and brokers to connect with capacity more easily, streamlining placement processes whilst supporting higher local cession and contributing directly to sector growth and resilience.

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Established in 1998, Chedid Re has since powered people, partners, and pathways in the reinsurance sector. With more than 400 experts based across our global offices – in Riyadh, Paris, London, Limassol, Dubai, Casablanca, Beirut, and Abidjan – our commitment is to go where our partners grow. This promise stands at the heart of our journey, delivered with the support of 400-plus insurance companies in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.

Over the past 25-plus years, we have forged enduring alliances with some of the world's most prominent reinsurance players, including as a registered Lloyd's broker since 2015. Our customer centricity, product and service innovation, and power partnerships have consistently ranked us among the world's top 20 reinsurance brokers.

Our portfolio has kept pace with our expansionary drive, today covering reinsurance, retrocession, treaty, and facultative products and services. Under the umbrella of our parent company, Chedid Capital, a leading investment group in the Middle East and Africa's (re)insurance sector, we continue to invest in technology and talent as the key pillars to our futureproof growth.

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# HERE FOR YOU. FAR TOGETHER.

#### WOMAN LEADER OF THE YEAR



# Ms Gracita Aoa-De Gracia Dubai International Financial Centre Authority

Ms Gracita Aoa-De Gracia, Head of Insurance & Reinsurance at DIFC Authority, has demonstrated exceptional leadership over 20 years, playing vital roles in developing

the largest and deepest reinsurance market in the MEASA region. Her efforts contributed to DIFC market GWP reaching \$3.5bn, representing a staggering 35% growth from the previous year.

Ms De Gracia led establishment of DIFC as a leading reinsurance hub, notably bringing A-rated capacity including Lloyd's—the world's oldest insurance market—to the centre after a decade of perseverance. Her determination attracted additional company market players, service companies, coverholders, brokers, and InsurTechs, supporting growth of existing firms within DIFC whilst promoting use of DFSA regulatory framework for start-up entities.

She played pivotal roles in initiating collaboration between prominent financial centres, spearheading the Memorandum of Understanding between DIFC and Guernsey Finance to promote advancement and innovation. Her efforts strengthened DIFC's position as preferred domicile for regionally owned Captives, culminating in successful completion of the first Captive redomiciliation from Guernsey to DIFC.

Ms De Gracia founded the DIFC Insurance Association, consulting on its blueprint, securing approval, and incorporating the nonprofit organisation. The association enhanced DIFC re/insurance

market standing by providing effective representation and becoming influential voice for the insurance community.

She partnered with GR establishing the annual Dubai World Insurance Congress, commencing in 2017. Now in its eighth year, the congress has welcomed 1,700 delegates from 82 countries, becoming recognised global platform for re/insurance transactions providing valuable opportunities for reinsurers, cedants, and brokers to convene and cultivate business relationships.

Ms De Gracia placed significant emphasis on talent development, facilitating and managing the Memorandum of Understanding between DIFC Academy and Lloyd's Academy, leading to Al Muntadah launch. She mentors management associates and interns whilst assisting educational institutions through organising field trips and participating in career awareness initiatives.

Her extensive expertise enabled engagement with distinguished institutions including The Wharton School, Financia Business School, American University of the Emirates, and McGill-HEC, promoting DIFC market and attracting emerging talent. Ms De Gracia shaped thought leadership through published articles, interviews, industry conference participation, and hosting insurance-focused podcasts reaching 115,000 views. She maintains membership in DIFC Sustainable Finance Working Group and Women in Insurance, supporting various women-focused initiatives beyond insurance panels whilst effectively managing professional responsibilities alongside motherhood commitments.

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Callidus is a niche risk and compliance consulting firm with deep roots in the insurance and reinsurance landscape of the Middle East. Established in 2010 and headquartered in Dubai, Callidus is a strategic partner of the DIFC and proudly serves a majority share of licensed insurers, reinsurers, MGAs, and intermediaries operating in the region.

With a senior leadership and advisory team comprising of former Lloyd's professionals, Big Four alumni, and ex-regulatory compliance personnel from global banks, Callidus brings unmatched competence to the table. Our bespoke services span authorisation, regulatory compliance, AML advisory, company secretarial, finance and accounting, and government liaison which are delivered with precision and integrity.

Our Chennai-based Centre of Excellence ensures continuity, efficiency, and a deep pool of expertise, supporting our clients globally. With an affiliate operation in London and a culturally diverse workforce, Callidus is uniquely positioned to draw on a wealth of local expertise whilst being cognisant of international best practice.

Our team's insight and knowledge, honed over decades of in-house and advisory experience, enable us to guide clients through the diverse regulatory frameworks across the DIFC, ADGM, and mainland UAE. Whether supporting reinsurance brokers, a new entrant in the DIFC or an established insurer on-shore, we are known for our tailored, responsive, and practical solutions.

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# Navigating complex regulatory landscape



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#### YOUNG LEADER OF THE YEAR



# Mr Khalid Jishi Arab Loss Adjusters (ALA)

Mr Khalid Jishi, CEO of Arab Loss Adjusters (ALA), has demonstrated exceptional leadership before age 40, transforming the only Arab-

owned loss-adjusting firm spanning 16 countries through commercial acumen and compassionate grit. His career trajectory from AIG portfolio analyst to CEO navigating postblast Beirut and Al-driven motor claims exemplifies forwardthinking leadership.

Mr Jishi's expansion strategy replaced ALA's associate office model with fully owned, locally led branches. He personally registered, licensed, and staffed operations starting with Oman, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar, followed by Malaysia, Cambodia, Pakistan, Iraq, Egypt, and Algeria. This transformation resulted in unified brand standards, faster response times, and elevated brand image from local to regional player.

The defining leadership test arrived on 4 August 2020 when the Beirut port explosion devastated the city. Within hours, Mr Jishi coordinated with local offices, assembling a task force of fresh graduates who became administrative backbone. Over 13 intense months, his team closed 1,648 files, securing timely settlements despite currency devaluations and political paralysis. Insurers praised consistent, detailed quantification outlined in reports at early stages, effectively controlling claim

leakage whilst restoring livelihoods and reputations.

Following his father's passing, Mr Jishi stepped into the CEO role, guiding a grieving workforce across multiple jurisdictions whilst modernising governance and articulating the "One ALA" strategic vision. He rebuilt senior teams around diverse thinkers, championing soft skills and customer experience as central objectives.

Mr Jishi negotiated ALA's partnership with Bdeo, launching ALA Mobility—the first fully digitalised FNOL-to-settlement motor workflow piloted in the Gulf. Early results demonstrated 50% reduction in average claim-handling time and 30% cost savings through triage accuracy. He digitised low-value homeowner inspections whilst overseeing in-house build of ALA's first enterprise-wide claims-analytics platform, turning 20 years of reports into predictive insight.

Under his stewardship, ALA earned AM Best accreditation and was named Regional Technical Service Provider of the Year, with the Beirut team receiving special commendation for post-disaster excellence. His medium-term goal transforms ALA into the largest boutique, full-service, indigenous technical-insurance partner in the region, spanning loss adjusting across all business classes, third-party administration, risk engineering, and data-driven consulting, proving home-grown expertise can match and often outinnovate imported models.

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Cigna Healthcare is a global health service company dedicated to improving the health and vitality of everyone they serve. With a heritage of over 250 years, Cigna Healthcare maintains a global sales capability in 30 countries and jurisdictions, employing over 72,000 people who service more than 164m customer relationships.

Operating for more than 19 years in the Middle East region, Cigna Healthcare serves the GCC markets and Lebanon through its locally regulated entities. The company delivers both health and wellness services to individuals, employers, and government entities in the region.

With a deep-rooted understanding of the African continent for over 60 years, servicing over 250,000 members, Cigna Healthcare services corporates through direct partnerships with locally licensed insurers in each market, providing health insurance for local companies and multinationals.

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# INSURANCE INDUSTRY LEADER **OF THE YEAR**



#### Mr Mohammed Mazhar Hamadeh

Mr Mohammed Mazhar Hamadeh has demonstrated exceptional dedication to regional insurance development over five decades, shaping growth of Al Ain Ahlia Insurance Company (AAAIC) whilst significantly influencing

development and integration of the Arab insurance market. Since assuming General Manager and Chief Executive Officer roles at AAAIC in 1994, Mr Hamadeh has led the firm through consistent growth, operational resilience, and constant profitability, maintaining strong UAE market presence renowned for financial stability.

As AAAIC approaches its 50th anniversary, Mr Hamadeh remains key pillar in company development, working relentlessly to reinforce technical and humane capabilities. His career spanning over five decades represents a commendable success story built from modest regional market beginnings. His unwavering commitment to industry collaboration and regulatory advancement promoted cooperation in motor and energy insurance lines whilst enhancing regulatory frameworks supporting prudent underwriting, loss prevention, and risk management strategies.

Mr Hamadeh holds prestigious positions across key regional and international insurance organisations. As Rapporteur of the Motor Technical Committee, Orange Card – General Arab Insurance Federation (GAIF), he exerted greater efforts developing the Orange Card system and promoting it across Arab countries. Within his capacity as technical committee head, he worked on progressive vision modernising the system and building technological capabilities, benefiting from international experiences such as the European Green Card to upgrade Orange Card standards.

Additional leadership roles include Chairman of the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurers & Reinsurers (FAIR) Oil and Energy Insurance Syndicate, Chairman of Arab Insurance Laws League (GAIF), Chairman of Investment Committee for Arab War Risks Insurance Syndicate, Vice Chairman of The Arab Insurance Institute, and Board Member positions across Gulf Insurance Federation, FAIR, Aviation Pool, and AWRIS Technical Board.

Within the UAE, he chairs the Emirates Insurance Federation's Motor Insurance Technical Sub-Committee and Higher Technical Committee, playing instrumental roles maintaining market balances and addressing technical concerns including underwriting and market performance. He chairs the Insurance Business Group at Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and

Mr Hamadeh earned his Bachelor's degree in Law in 1981 through distance learning—remarkable accomplishment for that era—followed by diplomas in criminal law and international law from Egyptian universities. He remains strong advocate for talent development, encouraging professional certifications, technical workshops, and training in underwriting and claims management. His vision for an integrated Arab insurance market promotes economic diplomacy through insurance cooperation, believing the industry possesses unique potential to lead regional transformation through cross-border relationships and shared economic interests.

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As the insurance landscape in the Middle East evolves, insurers and reinsurers are embracing digital transformation to stay competitive and meet growing customer demand for faster, more personalised services. Verisk is proud to stand at the forefront of that change.

Verisk is a global leader in insurance technology and data analytics, delivering reliable, end-to-end solutions to the insurance and reinsurance markets for over 30 years. Renowned for driving innovation and transformation, Verisk partners with underwriters, brokers, and MGAs across the Lloyd's, companies and international markets.

With a deep commitment to product evolution and client collaboration, Verisk empowers organisations to improve risk decision-making and operational efficiency, supported by an unmatched team of industry experts and access to extensive data-driven insights across its global ecosystem.

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# MIDDLE EAST INSURANCE REVIEW

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#### About Middle East Insurance Review

Middle East Insurance Review (MEIR) stands as the region's most authoritative

and influential insurance publication, serving the MENA and broader African markets with on-the-ground insights and unmatched coverage.

It is the only publication officially partnered with all major industry events in the MENA region – including GAIF, FAIR, AIO, and Sharm el Sheikh Rendezvous – as well as key summits across Asia. MEIR also remains the sole magazine with a dedicated Takaful section, reinforcing its reputation as the trusted source for both conventional and Takaful insurance news.

The publication's portfolio includes the prestigious Middle East Insurance Industry Awards (MIIA) – widely regarded as the "Oscars" of the insurance world. Since its inception, the MIIA has been instrumental in raising industry benchmarks, supported by a distinguished judging panel and a transparent, EY-audited process.

MEIR together with its sister publication Asia Insurance Review has collectively served the insurance industry for over 35 years. MEIR celebrates its 20th Anniversary in 2026.

# THE FINALISTS

Life Insurance Company of the Year	HAYAH Insurance Company MetLife Gulf Zurich International Life Ltd. Middle East
General Insurance Company of the Year	Abu Dhabi National Insurance Company (ADNIC) GIG Jordan Sukoon Insurance
Health Insurance Company of the Year	Cigna Healthcare Middle East and Africa (MEA) GIG Gulf MetLife Gulf
TPA of the Year	Mednet Global Healthcare Solution NAS Neuron Health Services Nextcare Claims Management LLC
Takaful Company of the Year	Abu Dhabi National Takaful Company GIG Egypt Life Takaful Qatar Islamic Insurance Group
Managing General Agent of the Year	Arma Underwriting Limited Kay International AMEA Limited Nexus Underwriting (DIFC) Limited
Educational & Training Initiative of the Year	Bahrain Institute for Banking and Finance (BIBF) Chartered Insurance Institute Middle East Corporate Risk Management Institute (CRMI)
Digital Transformation of the Year	GIG Gulf HAYAH Insurance Company Sukoon Insurance
InsurTech of the Year	KGiSL ReTech Reinsurance Brokers Co TrisQ Ltd

# THE FINALISTS

Strategic Partner to the Industry	BADRI Management Consultancy Nextcare PwC Middle East
Corporate Risk Manager of the Year	Ashwag Alzahrani, RisklQ Consulting Majed Al Marzooqi, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) Dr. Riyad Jaddal, Go Global
Law Firm of the Year	Al Tamimi & Company Clyde & Co Norton Rose Fulbright (Middle East)
Broker of the Year	Chedid Insurance Brokers Howden Middle East & Africa Marsh
Reinsurance Broker of the Year	Chedid Re Howden Specialty DIFC Shields Reinsurance Brokers
Life Reinsurer of the Year	Mena Re Life Reinsurance Group of America (RGA)
General Reinsurer of the Year	AXA XL Reinsurance International General Insurance (IGI) Saudi Reinsurance Company (Saudi Re)
Woman Leader of the Year	Gracita Aoa-De Gracia, Dubai International Financial Centre Authority Leah Cotterill, Cigna Healthcare Middle East & Africa May Hleileh, Emirates Insurance Company
Young Leader of the Year	Abdulla AlMarzooqi, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) Avinash Babur, InsuranceMarket.ae Khalid Jishi, Arab Loss Adjusters (ALA)

## **ROLL OF HONOUR 2025**

Life Insurance Company of the Year HAYAH Insurance Company

General Insurance Company of the Year
GIG Jordan

Health Insurance Company of the Year Cigna Healthcare Middle East and Africa (MEA)

TPA of the Year
NAS Neuron Health Services

Takaful Company of the Year Qatar Islamic Insurance Group

Managing General Agent of the Year |
Arma Underwriting Limited

Educational & Training Initiative of the Year Corporate Risk Management Institute (CRMI)

> Digital Transformation of the Year HAYAH Insurance Company

**InsurTech of the Year**ReTech Reinsurance Brokers Co.

Strategic Partner to the Industry
BADRI Management Consultancy

Corporate Risk Manager of the Year Mr Majed Al Marzooqi, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)

> Law Firm of the Year Clyde & Co

Broker of the Year Howden Middle East & Africa

Reinsurance Broker of the Year SHIELDS Reinsurance Brokers

Life Reinsurer of the Year Reinsurance Group of America (RGA)

General Reinsurer of the Year Saudi Reinsurance Company (Saudi Re)

Woman Leader of the Year

Ms Gracita Aoa-De Gracia, Dubai International Financial Centre Authority

Young Leader of the Year
Mr Khalid Jishi, Arab Loss Adjusters (ALA)

Insurance Industry Leader of the Year
Mr Mohammed Mazhar Hamadeh