

SWISS BUSINESS COUNCIL UNITED EMIRATES

28th Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 27 March 2023 | HYDE Dubai Hotel, Business Bay, Dubai

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Candidate 1: ALI KANANI from 'The Visiting Tailor by TAHA' (RE-ELECTION)

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Ali Kanani (BSc Hons, MA, MBA) is a business owner and entrepreneur who has served on the SBC ExCom for the past 6 years. His company, TAHA, was the first company to be incorporated in the SAIF Zone and he has set up successful arms of his company, specifically in the tailoring sector, in both China and KSA. He has also been the Treasurer for the SBC for the last year.



INTEREST TO CONTINUE AS EXCOM MEMBER (RE-ELECTION)

I would like to continue the work I have been doing over the last 6 years by:

- Continuing my work as Treasurer for the SBC
- Connecting with and representing the Swiss Business Community in the United Arab Emirates
- Helping the SBC Office team to organise successful events throughout the year
- Being an active member of the Executive Committee and contributing ideas and strategies to best serve the Swiss Business Community.
- Helping to attract new members, thus enhancing the experience for all members.

Candidate 2: MARIO AL-JEBOURI from 'AMP PARTNERS DIFC' (RE-ELECTION)

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Al-Jebouri is a Civil Engineer and has worked in the finance sector for many years. Banque Cantonale De Geneve "BCGE", Arthur Andersen, Barclays Bank, Lazard Investment Bank and now AMP Partners. Prior careers he has held prominent Government positions, Senior Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of Bulgaria (H.H. Simeon Saxe-Cobourg-Gotha), Chairman of Tourism Board a ministerial post. Successfully ran a PE fund for SEE as well as private business activities in MEA.



INTEREST TO JOIN AS EXCOM MEMBER

- I have been a consumer of the services and initiatives of the Swiss Business Council now for over 5 years it is time that I give back to the organization that has stood steadfast in the growth and development of my firm's business activities in the UAE and supported us in all ways possible. I strongly believe that I have certain skill sets which can be applied to further enhance the presence and visibility of the Swiss Business Council in the UAE.
- It is important to capitalize on all of the hard work done by the new president of the Swiss business council and the ExCom. Under the new stewardship SBC has reignited its purpose and relevance for the business community and

I would like to continue the hard work to date in making the SBC an example of what a business council should look like and do of its members.

- I have the ambition to further support all Swiss expats in the UAE and the region and take a more active role in the sector finance and banking.
- I would like to work more in looking at the synergies between our business councils in the UAE and that in the KSA to see ways in which we can be of greater assistance to our members in both countries as well as in the region as a whole.

Candidate 6: MICHAEL LANE from 'Swiss Group' (RE-ELECTION)

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Swiss lawyer Michael Lane is the Managing Partner of Swiss Group Legal Ltd, the legal advisory entity of Swiss Group, and the Director and Head of Legal at Swiss Group Advisory DMCC. A DFSA and FSRA-approved Compliance Officer and registered DIFC Will Draftsman, Michael has extensive experience operating in the legal sectors of the United Arab Emirates and Switzerland, utilising a comprehensive understanding of the laws of both countries.



INTEREST TO JOIN AS EXCOM MEMBER

- Strengthening of legal awareness and understanding of new regulations and implications in both countries, UAE/CH matters.
- Good existing network in the UAE Swiss community.
- Continue to promote the SBC in the UAE and Switzerland.
- Continue to strengthen the collaboration with Swiss and UAE government agencies.

Candidate 7: MIRET PADOVANI from 'By Miret Padovani FZE' (NEW CANDIDATE)

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

As an ETH and Uni Zürich alumnus, I earned my PhD in Finance in Switzerland. Today, I run a UAE-based company specializing in marketing and communications across a diverse spectrum of industries, predominantly catering to clients in the Middle East and Africa. Additionally, since 2010, I have been engaged in science communications, supporting finance professors from leading Swiss universities.



INTEREST TO JOIN AS EXCOM MEMBER

- Utilize my PR skills to amplify SBC's visibility.
- Drive active participation in SBC events.
- Target the UAE's hospitality sector for membership expansion.
- Forge strategic partnerships to bolster SBC's influence.