

# **Embracing Disruption and Searching for Resilient Futures**

4 November, 2024, 08:00 to 6 November, 2024, 22:00

St Regis Al Mouj Resort Al Mouj Muscat Oman

In an era where disruption is the new norm, the need for resilience has never been more paramount. The 2024 IFSWF annual meeting, Embracing Disruption and Searching for Resilient Futures, will be dedicated to exploring the transformative strategies and innovative solutions required to navigate the complexities of the modern financial landscape.

During the meeting, IFSWF members will learn from peers, experts, and practitioners how to harness the power of disruption and forge resilient pathways towards a greener, more sustainable world.

The IFSWF annual meeting is a unique opportunity for members to connect with each other and build a community dedicated to following best practice and adopting innovative new ideas for a more resilient future for generations to come.

## **Register?**

The IFSWF annual meeting is an invitation-only event. Registration is only open to IFSWF members and individuals who have received an invitation. Please do not attempt to register if you have not received an invitation.

## Agenda

Speakers will be added in due course.

## **Monday 4 November**

Registration

0730

**Networking Breakfast** 

#### **Welcome Remarks**

0830

- ? Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, President, Oman Investment Authority
- ? Obaid Amrane, Chair, IFSWF

0900 Keynote Address

#### **Investing in a Dynamic Policy Environment**

In an era characterised by escalating fractures in geopolitical and geoeconomic structures, how can IFSWF members ensure success? The global macroeconomy and international capital markets have been under duress since 2008, and the pandemic has plunged them into a period of unparalleled uncertainty. Years of consistent policymaking and globalisation have been disrupted, ushering in a new phase of global policy and multilateralism. Technology, demographics, green economics, and investments in space and blue economies are adding complexity to the responsibilities of sovereign wealth funds. As they navigate through unpredictability and confront unforeseen challenges, their preparedness for uncertainty is put to the test.

This panel discussion aims to explore how they are adapting to these changes and will delve into the lessons learned in coping with a dynamic policy environment and strategies for building portfolio resilience amidst these shifts. The discussion will also highlight emerging 0000 opportunities in this new landscape.

1030 Coffee Break

#### 1100 Keynote Address

From Fossil to Future: How Can the Energy Transition Influence the Investment Landscape for Developing Economies

How are IFSWF members from fossil fuel-producing countries, particularly those in the Gulf Cooperation Council, leveraging their revenues from non-renewable resources to pave the way towards a low-carbon future? Are they succeeding?

This session will delve into the pivotal role that IFSWF members can play in this transition. The session will discuss how they can bolster and evolve local economies, facilitating their shift from brown to green. The conversation will also encompass how IFSWF members can foster early-stage green technologies to establish market leaders and ensure they can attract capital from their peers and other private sector investors, both locally and internationally. This session aims to shed light on the strategies and implications of this energy transition for developing economies.

1230 Fireside Chat: What could the outcome of the US Presidential Election mean for sovereign investors?

1300 Lunch

1415 The Rising Importance of Enhancing Governance for Sovereign Wealth Funds

 $\frac{1430}{1600}$  Long-Term Governance Tools for Sovereign Wealth Funds

1630 Tour of Old Muscat, the Al Alam Palace

Informal Dinner at Mirani Fort

1930

**Dinner Presentation** 

## **Tuesday 5 November**

0730 Networking Breakfast

#### **IFSWF Annual General Meeting & Group Photo**

0830

#### IFSWF MEMBER INSTITUTIONS ONLY

1030 Coffee Break

#### Parallel Session A: Sovereign Wealth Funds and New Opportunities in AI

1100 IFSWF members are increasingly exploring investment opportunities in AI, which is purported to fundamentally transforms the global economy and alter market dynamics. The session will explore how IFSWF members can go about investing in AI-based technologies in a responsible way.

#### Parallel Session B: How Supply Chains are Adapting in a Multipolar World

The session will explore how the increasing diversification of supply chains is reshaping global manufacturing and shipping landscapes. It will discuss the emergence of "connector countries" such as Indonesia, Morocco, Poland, Mexico, and Vietnam and their pivotal role in the diversification of supply chains. The session will also examine the evolving shipping patterns and the rising uncertainty in key areas like Panama and the Red Sea. In a world where trade barriers are on the rise, the session will discuss strategies for companies to bolster the resilience of their supply chains. This session promises to provide valuable insights for anyone interested in the complexities and future trends of global supply chains.

#### Parallel Session C: Is Traditional Asset Allocation Broken?

Is traditional asset allocation broken? New structural forces of conflict, increasing geopolitical tensions, higher inflation, and interest rates are challenging many of the assumptions underpinning the way investors have generated returns over the last three decades. IFSWF members are asking questions about traditional asset allocation strategies as asset class correlations emerge. In this session, we will discuss new approaches to asset allocation, considering macroeconomic factors in asset allocation decisions, the challenges and opportunities of implementing a total portfolio approach, as well as leveraging new techniques and advances in computing power to tackle large-scale systematic portfolio optimisation problems for sovereign wealth funds.

#### Parallel Session D: The Opportunities of Green Hydrogen

As global energy transition programmes continue to gain traction, hydrogen has secured its place in the international spotlight as an important contributor to reducing carbon emissions. This nascent industry provides exciting new investment opportunities across the value chain, from production with renewable power through electrolysis or from natural gas with carbon capture, utilisation and storage to its global and local distribution and use. In this session, we will discuss the myriad opportunities for long-term investors, like sovereign wealth funds, in this exciting new sector.

#### Parallel Session E: Coinvesting and Cofinancing Frameworks for Sovereign Wealth Funds

In the dynamic landscape of global investments, IFSWF members are increasingly adopting coinvesting and cofinancing frameworks to enhance returns, diversify risks, and achieve strategic objectives. These collaborative investment strategies enable them to pool resources with like-minded partners, leverage expertise, and access larger, more complex opportunities that may otherwise be out of reach. By aligning interests and sharing insights, coinvesting and cofinancing arrangements offer a pathway to sustainable growth and long-term value creation for emerging economies.

#### Parallel Session F: Navigating the Final Frontier: Sovereign Wealth Funds in the Space Sector

The space sector is undergoing a renaissance, with breakthroughs in technology propelling new developments and opening unprecedented investment opportunities. From satellite communications to rare earth mining and space tourism, the industry's potential is vast and varied. However, it also faces unique regulatory challenges as nations and private entities navigate a complex international landscape. Sovereign wealth funds are well-positioned to play a pivotal role in this dynamic sector by providing capital, fostering innovation, and shaping the regulatory frameworks that will ensure the sustainable and responsible use of outer space resources.

1500 Coffee Break

#### **Synthesising Annual Meeting: Insights for the Future**

This closing session will encapsulate the insights and discussions from our previous sessions, weaving them into a comprehensive narrative. It's an opportunity to reflect on what we've learned, identify key takeaways, and discuss how we can apply these insights moving forward.

1800- Tour of Royal Opera House 1930 Opera Performance

 $\frac{2000}{2200}$  Gala Dinner

## Wednesday, 6 November

0700 Breakfast

**0830 Buses Leave for Networking Tour** 

1000 Arrive at Oman Across Ages Museum

- 1300 Lunch at Museum
- 1400 **Tour of Nizwa Fort**
- 1530 Walking Tour of Al Aqar
- 1600 **Tour of Nizwa Souq**
- 1800 Buses Leave for Muscat
- 2000 Dinner at St Regis Al Mouj Resort