

Dr. Ahmed M. Darwish

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Brief Bio

- Date of Birth: May 25th 1959
- BSc. and MSc. Cairo University 1981 and 1984
- Ph.D. in Computer Engineering, University of California, Davis, USA, 1988.

Awards

- Egyptian National Engineering Award, 1999.
- Middle East Eminent Persons, Singapore, 2007.
- University of California, Life Time Achievement (Distinguished Engineering Alumni Medal), 2017.

Occupations

- Professor, Computer Engineering Department, Cairo University (Sept '99 – July '04), (Mar '11 – Nov '15), (May '17 – to date)
- *Chairman Suez Canal Economic Zone* (Nov '15 – Apr 2017)
- *Minister of State for Administrative Development* (July '04 – Jan. '11).
- Visiting Associate Professor: The Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Virginia Tech, USA ('96-'97, Summer '99).

Consultations

- Consultant to World Bank and EU projects and several United Nations Organizations, UNIDO, UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and ESCWA.
- Consultant to a number of Egyptian government ministries and agencies.
- Consultant to a number of Egyptian and international companies, banks and enterprises in Egypt, Middle East, Africa, Europe and United States.

Sample Current Activities

Dr. Darwish has numerous work in Governance both for state and corporate. He is among few visionaries in Egypt and Middle East in terms of futuristic ideas. He initiated Egypt Vison 2030, Egypt Development Map (a pioneer planning tool based on GIS and statistical population parameters).

His skill set includes negotiation, cash flow and finance analysis, setting policies and strategies and many more.

Dr. Darwish is among the few internationally known for establishing the concept of Invisible Seamless Government where pushing services dominates the operation rather that the classic pull mode. He is also among the early visionaries who have anticipated in his

famous talk in Paris in 2002 that old structures will fall if they not become agile enough to absorb new technology availed tools. He shed the light on the repercussions of that on governance models and mechanisms especially in the area of citizen participation.

His methodology of linking national databases proven to be very efficient both in service provision and targeting.

Consultancy

- Consultant to Microsoft on the preparation of National Plan for Middle East and Africa (2012-2014).
- Consultant and Advisor to several companies and banks among them a leading Egyptian International Petroleum Company / Group (2011-date), Industry Development Bank(2014-date), Investor Protection Fund (2014-date) Misr Insurance Company (2015), Arab Investment Holding (member of the board 2014) and Misr Insurance Holding Company (2011-2012).
- Member of the team (Volunteering at Ministry of Planning) to prepare and draft the National Plan 2012-2022 (2011) and Egypt Vision 2030/2050 (2014-date).
- Advisor to UNDP on their policies and strategies in Egypt for projects implemented on anticorruption, transparency and integrity post of the January 25th revolution.
- Consultant to the World Bank for the study on Governance of State Owned Enterprises (2013).
- Advisor to UNIDO on several studies and initiatives among them Green Economy and Employment in the Middle East (2013) and Fostering Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Middle East (2011).
- Invited Expert by several International organizations for numerous workshops among them:
 - Workshop on Economic Reforms and Social Justice in the Arab Region, Sponsored by Royal Prince Hassan Ben Talal, Landau Network and Wana Forum, Como, Italy 2012.
 - High Level Conference on EU and Southern Neighbourhood New Prospects for Mutual Cooperation in a Changing Environment, Sponsored by the EU Presidency, Warsaw Dec. 2011.
 - Helsinki Process: Improving International Investment Regime, April 2013.

Boards

Current

- Member of Board of Directors Egypt Air Holding, Cheiron Oil, 138 Pyramids and Endure Capital
- Member of the Board of Advisors for Daltex, Sadco, Ryada
- Member of the Assembly for Akhbar, Chemical Industry Holding Company, Misr Insurance Holding Company.
- Member of the Board of Trustees, School of Business, and School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, American University in Cairo, Badr University, Cairo, New Giza University.

Previous

- Member of Board of Directors for Bank du Caire, Telecom Egypt, Industry Development Authority, ITIDA, Information Technology and Information Technology Institute, ITI
- Member of the Board of Advisors Council of Arab Economic Unity, ConsuKorra Planning and Engineering Solutions.
- Member of the Board of Trustees for International School of Information Science ISIS, Bibliotheca Alexandrina,

Invited Speaker (Sample)

- 73 keynotes in 23 countries in business associations around the world.2016-2017.
- Keynote speaker at World e-ID, Nice, Sept. 2012 and 2013 and Marseille Sept. 2014.
- Keynote speaker at the Government Technology Summit, Abu-Dhabi, Feb. 2013 and Dubai Feb. 2014.
- Speaker, UNIDO General Conference on the prospects for solving the forecasted unemployment problems in the Middle East, Vienna Nov. 2011, UNIDO Forum on Strategies and Instruments for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Vienna June 2014, UNIDO International Green Economy and Technology Forum, Bahrain Jan. 2015.
- Keynote Speaker, International Innovation Summit, Tunis Sept. 2014.
- Keynote speaker at OECD conference “Making Reform Happen”, Paris, Dec. 2010.

Sample Previous Professional Experience

- Establishment of the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone: 461 sq km and 6 ports). This included all the regulatory framework and policies and strategies to become among top 7 most attractive investment destinations in 2035.
- Attracting 20B\$ worth of investment to develop 23M sq m in Sczone.
- Preparation of the 2 National Project Documents on e-government (Policies and Strategies) 2001-2007 and 2007-2012.
- The administration and coordination of the implementation efforts of the four e-government programs (over 160 projects with an annual budget of \$100M): 1. Basic Infrastructure, 2. Services Development, 3. State Resource Planning, 4. Integration of National Databases.
 - These efforts led to the enhancement of Egyptian rank for electronic and web services is from 160 out of 192 countries in 2003 to 23 out of 192 according to the 2010 UNPAN report in 2010 and the program received the best service award both from the UN in New York (2009) and the African Union in Johannesburg (2008).
Dr. Darwish was also a guest speaker on numerous international events among them the European Electronic Administration Conference in Paris (2008).
- The design of a new Social Safety Net structure through a newly created family database and the use of smart cards (family card). A nationwide project for 12M families.
- The complete study on restructuring of health insurance and health care services and university hospitals in Egypt.

- The Design and execution of the Institutional Development and Human Resources Development Program.
 - Re-establishment of the National Management Institute (NMI) in 2006 (originally established in 1954 and dissolved in 1981). It presents an excellence center for IT services, consulting and capacity building.
 - Establishment of the Center for Governance Studies as the first regional center that promotes various governance pillars (transparency, accountability, partnership in decision making, rule of law, ...).
 - Chairing the OECD initiative Governance for Development in the Arab World 2005-2009.
 - Leading the efforts for Egypt to join the Public Governance Committee, OECD (2008).
 - Chaired the Egyptian Transparency and Integrity Committee (2008-2011). The committee composed mostly of non-government public figures and experts. Published 3 auditing reports that tracked the international and national corruption indices along with recommendations for government such as budget transparency, ombudsman and transparency in jobs and government procurement.
 - Sponsoring and Contracting Cairo University for the largest scientific statistical social study in the Middle East on Egyptian Values Regarding Corruption; which when published attracted huge attention and created a high awareness state especially among youth.
 - Leading major efforts in the area of Access to Justice and the implementation of the major development of the judiciary support system in Egypt.
- As a result of his work on governance Dr. Darwish was an invited speaker to numerous international events, the last was in December 2010 in Paris by OECD on “Making Reform Happen” where he was introduced by Mr. Angel Gurría as the most famous reformer in the Middle East.

Academic and Professional Activities

- Chairman, IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers), Egypt Section, Member of the Award and Recognition Committee (ARC) Region 8 (2012-2015) and Member of the Ethics and Member Conduct Committee (2015).
- Member of the Board for the Management Engineering Society.
- Member of several scientific societies and on the editorial and reviewing boards of international scientific journals and periodicals.
- Publications: 64 papers in international peer reviewed journals and conferences, 11 invited papers, shared in 4 books, numerous invited talks.
- Several sponsored research projects. Graduate Supervision: 10 Ph.D. - 26 M.Sc.

Civil Society, Think Tanks and Policy Advocacy Activities

Member of the board for several NGOs among them:

- Egypt National Competitiveness Council
- Gears (تروس): Creation of an Egyptian GIS Development Map and helping coordinate civil society to engage together with government and Private Sector and initiators of Egypt Vision 2030/2050.