

# The Gulf Intelligence Levant Energy Forum 2011

Thursday, June 23, 2011  
University of Cyprus, Nicosia



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His Excellency Fuad Siniora  
Former Prime Minister of Lebanon

## Special Guest

HE Mr Fuad Siniora is currently the Head of the Future Bloc in the Lebanese Parliament. He also served as the President of the Council of Ministers in Lebanon from 2005 to 2009. Prior to his Premiership Mr. Siniora served as the Minister of Finance between 2000 and 2004.

Mr Siniora was also the Chairman – Chief Executive Officer of the Méditerranée Group from 2004 to 2005 and served on the Board of Arab Bank. He was appointed as acting Minister of State for Financial Affairs in successive cabinets during H.E Rafic Hariri's tenure as Prime Minister between 1992 and 1998.

Between 1982 and 1992 Mr. Siniora held several high level executive posts within the Méditerranée Group. Notably, he was the Chairman-General Manager of Saudi Lebanese Bank and Banque De La Méditerranée and served as Vice Chairman of Banque De La Méditerranée Suisse as well as the Méditerranée Investors Group. Mr. Siniora was also the Chairman – Managing Director of the IRAD, sal and Mal, sal Holding Companies and was a director at the Arab Universal Insurance & Reinsurance Co.

Mr. Siniora began his career in the finance industry at Citibank in the early 1970s and then joined Lebanon's Central Bank in 1977 where he Chaired the Banking Control Commission until 1982.

During that time he also lectured the Lebanese University and at his alma mater, the American University of Beirut, where he earned a Masters degree in Business Administration in 1970.

# Forum Feature Guests



## Panos Papanastasiou

Professor, Dean of Engineering, University of Cyprus

Panos Papanastasiou is Professor and Dean of the Engineering School of the University of Cyprus. He served as the founding Chairman and Chairman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering from 2002-2008. He worked as Principal Research Scientist in the Research Center of Schlumberger at Cambridge, England from 1991 to 2002 and as consultant to Schlumberger from 2002-2007. His expertise and scientific contributions are in Applied and Computational Mechanics with applications in Petroleum Geomechanics and in particular on wellbore stability, hydraulic fracturing, sanding prediction and control, reservoir Geomechanics, CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage and petroleum management. He has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals and conference proceedings and he invented 3 patents. He is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and editorial advisor for the International Journal of Geomechanics published by ASCE.



## Dr. Walid Khadduri

Former Middle East Economic Survey Editor in Chief  
and currently MEES Consultant

Dr. Walid Khadduri former Middle East Economic Survey (“MEES”) Editor in Chief and currently MEES Consultant. He joined MEES in 1981 after working for seven years as Director of Information and International Relations at the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in Kuwait. He was also a member of the Political Science Department at Kuwait University (1973-1975) and prior to that he served as Director of Research at the Institute for Palestine Studies in Beirut (1970-1973). Born in Baghdad, he received a BA in Social Science Studies from Michigan State University in 1963 and graduated from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in 1972 with a PhD in International Relations. Dr. Khadduri has published and lectured extensively on the oil industry and the Middle East situation and is the recipient of several journalistic awards including the King ‘Abd Allah Bin ‘Abd al-‘Aziz Al Saud Award “Petroleum Journalism Excellence”, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2007 and The first OPEC Award for Journalism “Outstanding Career in Oil Reporting”, Vienna, 2009.



## Lawson Freeman

Vice President, Eastern Mediterranean, Noble Energy

Lawson Freeman has more than 25 years of oil and gas industry experience. Before assuming his role as Noble’s Vice President, Eastern Mediterranean in 2009, Lawson served as Noble’s Head of Marketing in Houston. Before joining Noble Energy, he held roles with BP as Commercial Manager in Azerbaijan and Business Development Director responsible for Sakhalin Island, Russia. Earlier in his career, he held a variety of engineering and operations roles with US oil and gas companies. Lawson holds a bachelor’s degree in Petroleum Engineering from Texas A&M University and is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

# Forum Feature Guests



## Solon Kassinis

**Director of Energy, Ministry of Commerce,  
Industry and Tourism, Cyprus**

Solon has been closely associated with the oil and gas industry for more than 30 years both as a chemical engineer and as a freelance consultant. He holds a BSc in Chemical Engineering from the University of Surrey, a BSc in Business Studies from the University of London and a diploma in Marketing. Following a successful career abroad, where he worked both as a chemical engineer and a petroleum engineer at Sasol and Royal Dutch Shell and as a consultant on energy issues at the World Bank and other organizations and governments, he returned to Cyprus where he joined the Cyprus Petroleum Refinery and then the Geological Survey Department, before attaining his current position. Solon is also a Member of the Board of Directors of the Cyprus Oil Terminal Ltd. Solon is also Chairman of the Special Fund Committee for the promotion of the energy saving technologies and the utilization of the Renewable Energy Sources and he is Chief negotiator for the Oil Exploration – Exploitation applications and Member of the Board of Directors of the Cyprus Petroleum Refinery.



## Wissam Zahabi

**Senior Energy Advisor to the Prime Minister of Lebanon**

Wissam Zahabi is an energy advisor at the presidency of the council of Ministers in Beirut since 2003. Wissam obtained his master degree in engineering from the American University of Beirut and an MBA in finance from HEC Montreal. Upon his return from Canada in 2003, Wissam was involved in providing advisory services in the energy sector at the office of the Prime Minister. He was part of the team that drafted the offshore petroleum resources law in close collaboration with Norwegian consultants. Wissam was part of the team that drafted the petroleum policy that was endorsed by the Council of Ministers and he is currently part of the team drafting the petroleum regulations. He was also member of the committee that delineated the Exclusive Economic Zone of Lebanon. He followed up on various feasibility studies for energy projects (gas pipeline, LNG terminal and refinery projects). Wissam was also involved in contracts pertaining to gas sales and fuel oil and gas oil imports to power plants.



## Costas Ioannou

**Executive Chairman, Natural Gas Public Company  
of Cyprus (DEFA)**

Costas Ioannou studied Electrical Engineering, at London University, graduating with distinction. He worked for the Electricity Authority of Cyprus (EAC) for 36 years, six of which as the Chief Engineer and General Manager. He resigned from the post of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of EAC in January 2004 to accept an appointment, by the Council of Ministers, to the post of the first Chairman of the newly formed Cyprus Energy Regulatory Authority (CERA). In October 2009 he resigned from CERA as he was appointed by the Council of Ministers as the first Executive Chairman of the newly formed Natural Gas Public Company of Cyprus (DEFA). He wrote a number of essays and studies which were presented in international conferences and published. In his long career he held various honorary positions in many bodies.

# Forum Producer

## Sean Evers

### Managing Partner, Gulf Intelligence



In 2009, Sean Evers became Managing Partner and Founder of Gulf Intelligence. He attained a BA from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana in 1988, and went on to secure his law degree at Ireland's University College Galway. Sean has spent his career building ground-breaking media enterprises, starting with the award-winning Punchbag Productions across Britain and Ireland, securing top award at the 1992 Edinburgh Festival. In the mid-1990s Sean Evers was appointed Cairo correspondent for *The Financial Times*. In 1997 he joined Bloomberg in Dubai and over the following decade built the U.S. media company's Middle East network from Cairo to Tehran, culminating in 2008 in Dubai being designated as the firm's fourth global hub.



Gulf Intelligence facilitates knowledge exchange between stakeholders. The strategic communications and public affairs consultancy produces boutique industry forums and roundtable discussion series globally with an architecture that ensures all participants engage in a dynamic and competitive exchange of knowledge towards a shared goal. The Dubai-based firm assists Middle East companies and government entities to tap dormant intelligence and create knowledge reservoirs that can be utilized to bolster their profiles, to communicate with stakeholders and to overwhelm competitors.

## Media Partner



### MEES

Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), founded in 1957, is a subscription-only weekly newsletter focusing on the region's energy strategies and developments, within their economic and political contexts. MEES charts trends in oil and gas, and the industries that rely on them. While MEES' core coverage is of the Middle East, North Africa, East Mediterranean and the Caspian region, it also provides weekly analysis of developments relating to OPEC and to international organizations involved in the global oil and gas markets. On the political front, MEES is alert to trends that could pose risks to the oil and gas sector. Available in both print and electronic edition, MEES draws on the experience of more than 50 years of uninterrupted publication to offer exclusive insights to its subscribers. In addition to articles by its team of analysts, MEES provides a platform for international experts to share their views with the newsletter's high-profile readership. Also available to subscribers is access to the MEES on-line Archives.

# Forum Agenda

07.30 – 08.30 **Registration & Networking Breakfast**

## Session A – With Special Guests

08.30 – 08.45 **Forum Commences** – Master of Ceremonies Dyala Sabbagh  
**Welcome Note** – by Professor Constantinos Christofides, Rector of the University of Cyprus.

08.45 – 09.00 **Key Note Speech**  
by His Excellency Fuad Siniora, former Prime Minister of Lebanon – *“Sharing the Levant Basin”*.

09.00 – 09.45 **Special Guest Q&A**  
His Excellency Fuad Siniora to engage in Q&A with Forum Audience. Moderator - Sean Evers, Managing Partner, Gulf Intelligence.

09.45 – 10.00 **Cyprus**  
Solon Kassinis, Director, Energy Service, Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Tourism – Presentation on the Cyprus Energy Development Plan.

10.00 – 10.15 **Lebanon**  
Wissam Zahabi, Senior Energy Advisor to the Prime Minister of Lebanon – Presentation on the Lebanese Energy Development Plan.

10.15 – 11.00 **Panel – Q&A**  
Solon Kassinis, Wissam Zahabi and Costas Ioannou, Executive Chairman, Natural Gas Public Company of Cyprus to Discuss the opportunities & challenges of developing the Levant Basin. Moderator – Gary Lakes, East Mediterranean Editor, Middle East Economic Survey.

11.00 – 11.15 **Coffee Break**

## Session B – Roundtable Discussions

11.15 – 11.25 **Forum Recommences** – Master of Ceremonies Dyala Sabbagh  
**“Energy Outlook” – Maersk Oil**  
Richard Doidge, Senior Director of Business Development (MENA Region), Maersk Oil, to present an outlook for the energy industry ahead of the Roundtable Discussions.

11.30 – 12.15 **Roundtable Discussion: Outlook for Energy**  
Each table will engage in a moderated debate on some of the key questions facing the Energy Industry globally and in specific the development of the East Mediterranean.  
\*Each table is tasked in reaching a 3-point Consensus Answer.

12.15 – 12.45 **Working - Buffet Lunch**

12.45 – 1.30 **‘A View from Nicosia’**  
Each Roundtable moderator will present their table’s 3-Point Outlook to the Forum during coffee and desert.

## Session C – Industry & Academia: ‘Research’

1.45 – 2.45 **Panel Debate**  
A panel of academic and energy industry experts will discuss some of the greatest long range technical challenges facing the energy industry in the Levant Basin in order to outline and propel appropriate research projects to help solve these issues.  
Moderator - Sean Evers.  
\*Neil Gilmour, General Manager Floating LNG, Shell  
\*Lawson Freeman, Vice President, Eastern Mediterranean, Noble Energy  
\*Professor Panos Papanastasiou, Dean of the Engineering School at University of Cyprus

2.45 – 3.00 **Closing Comments**  
Dr. Walid Khadduri, Former MEES Editor in Chief and currently MEES Consultant.



## A Message from the Rector of the University of Cyprus

# Forum Host

### Professor Constantinos Christofides Rector of the University of Cyprus

On behalf of the University of Cyprus, I would like to respectfully welcome you to the Levant Energy Forum 2011, taking place at its premises. It has been with great pleasure that the University readily embraced Mr. Sean Evers's idea to host the Forum.

Undoubtedly, there is no economic convergence and economic development, without scientific convergence. The University of Cyprus, as a knowledge centre, being aware of the significant role The Gulf Intelligence plays in the Mediterranean energy industry, eagerly supports such networking events, which produce valuable intelligence, to tackle problems related to research, energy, environment and economy.

Moreover, the Forum is certainly strengthening the bond between Cyprus and Lebanon and I express my sincere appreciation to their distinguished representatives for graciously participating in it. I am confident that their valuable contributions on "Levant Basin – Scale of Opportunity" will eventually result in the successful outcome of the Forum.

Concluding my message, let me once again welcome you in Cyprus and wish you a pleasant stay and productive Forum, fulfilling all your expectations.

Thank you.



### About the University of Cyprus

Since its establishment in 1989, the University of Cyprus has consistently pursued excellence, fulfilling its mission to the Cypriot society, while essentially contributing to its further development. Today, the University is recognized as the most important research and higher education institution of Cyprus, and has also, moreover, been honoured as a 'distinguished Mediterranean University'. In 2010, the University of Cyprus was ranked at 1,121 worldwide, by Shanghai World University Ranking, while it aims to be included in the first 500 by 2020. Currently, the University comprises six Faculties and 21 Departments offering a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research study programs to 7,000 enrolled students. It employs over 900 people in its academic and administrative staff. By 2020, the University is expected to expand, getting to have 9 schools, with 25 departments and about 10,000 students. Both research state fund and research funds from external sources for period 1999-2009 are valued to about €100 million.





**MAERSK**  
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# Premier Industry Partner

**Maersk Oil** is an independent oil and gas company producing some 700,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day. The company has production and exploration activities in Denmark, the UK, Qatar, Algeria, Kazakhstan, Angola, Brazil, Norway, Oman, Greenland and the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Maersk Oil was founded in 1962 and is part of the A. P. Moller Maersk conglomerate.

People, technology and safety are central to Maersk Oil and a growth strategy based on focused long-term goals enables progress. A strong performance culture with talented and engaged employees underpins the successful execution of this strategy. Maersk Oil uses innovation to push technical performance in their continuing search for and recovery of hydrocarbons. The company seeks to build its asset portfolio through new technologies and strengthened strategic partnerships. Maersk Oil has pioneered several oilfield technologies and takes pride in rapidly identifying and deploying the right capabilities to develop and produce oil and gas in a cost-effective manner. The company is recognised for turning marginal fields into commercial successes and are among the best operators of tight difficult reservoirs. Maersk Oil also has solid competencies in integrated field development and handles offshore, subsea and FPSO facilities efficiently.

Maersk Oil has a track record of delivering development projects on time and on budget. This offers the predictability and reliability which partners value. Significant extra wealth is created for host countries when projects are delivered from exploration to first oil in the shortest timeframe.



*Head of Delegation*

**Richard Doidge**

**Senior Director of Business Development (MENA Region)**

Richard Doidge is Head of Business Development for Maersk Oil in the Middle East. Based in Doha Qatar, he is responsible for growing the company's upstream business in the MENA region, a position he has held since 2009. Between 2005 and 2009, he headed Maersk Oil's US business based in Houston, Texas. In this role, he established Maersk Oil's presence in the deep water US Gulf of Mexico. Prior to that, he managed the Exploration New Ventures group in Maersk Oil's corporate headquarters in Copenhagen, taking the company into several new countries. He has been with Maersk Oil since 1992, and has a background in geoscience. Before joining Maersk Oil he worked for BP/ Britoil in UK. Richard Doidge has a Master's degree in Applied Geophysics from the University of Birmingham, UK and a bachelor's degree in physics from Imperial College London.

# Forum Industry Partners



## Shell

Shell is a global group of energy and petrochemical companies. Our aim is to meet the energy needs of society, in ways that are economically, socially and environmentally viable, now and in the future. The world is shifting towards a new low-carbon energy future. It will be powered by a range of sources, from cleaner fossil fuels to renewables. The energy transition will take time and fossil fuels will continue to provide the bulk of energy for many years to come. We believe that oil and gas will be integral to the global energy needs for economic development for many decades to come. Our role is to ensure that we extract and deliver them profitably and in environmentally and socially responsible ways. We seek a high standard of performance, maintaining a strong long-term and growing position in the competitive environments in which we choose to operate. We aim to work closely with our customers, our partners and policymakers to advance more efficient and sustainable use of energy and natural resources.



### *Head of Delegation*

## Neil Gilmour

### General Manager for Floating LNG, Shell

Neil has a Bachelor of Science in Geology from Glasgow University (1984) and a Master of Science in Exploration Geophysics from Leeds University (1985). Since joining Shell in 1986 he has worked internationally in Exploration, Petroleum Engineering, New Ventures, Commercial, M&A and LNG. He spent the first half of his career in technical roles (initially as a geophysicist, subsequently leading large technical projects and teams) and the second half in commercial roles. Most recently he was the Business Development Manager for Europe (2002-2003), the Head of Global Opportunity Identification for Shell EP (2003-2007), led the PetroChina Strategic Alliance (2008-2009) and the Upstream International Transition (restructuring) team (2009). Neil was delighted to become the General Manager for Floating LNG within the Commercial organization of Shell's Upstream International business in January 2010. He is based in The Hague and leads a commercial team split between the Netherlands and Singapore, with strong links to the Technip/Samsung Heavy Industries consortium selected as the key partners for the Shell FLNG programme.



## Noble Energy

Noble Energy is a leading independent energy company engaged in worldwide oil and gas exploration and production. Current proven reserves are approximately 1.1 billion barrels of oil equivalent, with daily production averaging 213 thousand barrels of oil equivalent. The Company has core operations onshore in the U.S., primarily in the DJ Basin, in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, offshore Eastern Mediterranean, and offshore West Africa. Noble Energy is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is traded under the ticker symbol NBL. Further information about the Company is available at [www.nobleenergyinc.com](http://www.nobleenergyinc.com).



### *Head of Delegation*

## Rodney D. Cook

### Sr. Vice President, International Division, Noble Energy

Rodney Cook is responsible for Noble Energy's International Division. Elected a senior vice president in April 2008, he had served as vice president for the Southern Region of the company's United States Division since August 2006 and as a vice president of that division since May 2005. Prior to that time, he was manager of Noble Energy's West Africa and Middle East Business Unit since 2002 and operations manager of its International Division since 1996. He held a variety of previous positions with Noble Energy after joining the company in 1980 and with Texas Pacific Oil prior to that time. Rodney holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Tulsa.

# Thegulfintelligence.com Knowledge Series 2011-2012

Gulf Intelligence facilitates knowledge exchange amongst stakeholders. The strategic communications and public affairs consultancy produces Thought Leadership forums and roundtable discussions with an architecture that ensures all participants engage in a dynamic exchange of knowledge with an enhanced networking experience. The Dubai-based firm positions its clients as thought leaders in their field.



Sir Bob Geldof Gives Key Note Speech at The Gulf Intelligence Food Security Forum April 28, 2011  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### The Gulf Intelligence Middle East Energy Forum Series 2011-2012

#### ■ The 1st Energy Markets Forum – Dubai, September 2011

Proposed Special Guest: Abdalla Salem El-Badri, Secretary General of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

#### ■ The 1st Kuwait Energy Forum – October 2011

Proposed Special Guest: Farouq Al-Zanki, CEO, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC)

#### ■ The 3rd UAE Energy Forum – January 2012

Proposed Special Guest: His Excellency Mohammed Bin Dhaen Al Hamli, United Arab Emirates Minister of Energy.

#### ■ The 4th Doha Energy Forum – March 2012

Proposed Special Guest: His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Bin Saleh Al-Sada, Qatar Minister of Energy & Industry, Chairman & Managing Director, Qatar Petroleum.

#### ■ The 2nd Levant Energy Forum – June 2012

## CONTACT DETAILS

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### Dyala Sabbagh - Partner



Dyala's decade in the gulf has seen her gracefully bridge the world of media and business, with two successful Dubai-based companies to her credit. She was

short listed for the Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2007 by *Emirates Woman* magazine. These achievements came at the same time as presenting television shows for the BBC and CNBC, which currently includes guest anchoring CNBC's regional flagship program *Gateway to the Middle East*. In 2002, Dyala founded Proof Woody FZ LLC, a convenience retail business, which now boasts the largest network of news kiosks across Dubai. She is also a partner in Gulf Intelligence. Dyala started her career in the mid-1990s in banking with Credit Suisse First Boston in Paris. She is married with three children and lives in Dubai.

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