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09:00 – 09:05 | *Welcome*

09:05 – 09:15 | *Welcome Address*

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of the City of London, **William Russell**



Alderman William Russell took office as the 692nd Lord Mayor of the City of London on the 8th November 2019. He served as a sheriff of the City of London in 2016–17 and, in that capacity, supported the then-Lord Mayor, undertaking numerous visits and official functions. On the 30th September 2020, he was elected to serve a further year in office to provide continuity of civic governance during the COVID-19 emergency. His second term began on the 13th November 2020.

Alderman William's mayoral theme for his time in office is 'Global UK – The New Future'. He was educated at Eton College and Durham University and has a strong family history with the City of London. He is the fifth member of his family to be Lord Mayor in the past 110 years. His grandfather, Sir Ian Bowater, was Lord Mayor exactly 50 years ago from 1969 to 1970 and his great grandfather, Sir Frank Bowater, was Lord Mayor from 1938 to 1939.

09:15 – 09:30 | *Keynote Address*

Economic Secretary to the Treasury and City Minister, **John Glen MP**



John Glen was appointed the economic secretary to the Treasury and city minister on the 9th January 2018. He was the parliamentary undersecretary of state for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport from the 14th June 2017 to the 8th January 2018. He was the parliamentary private secretary to Philip Hammond from July 2016 until June 2017.

John was first elected to parliament as the member of parliament for Salisbury in 2010. He previously worked for Eric Pickles and Sajid Javid as a parliamentary private secretary.

09:30 – 10:50

RE-EVALUATING THE VALUE PROPOSITION OF ISLAMIC FINANCIAL SERVICES IN THE UK

Moderator:

Stella Cox, Managing Director, DDCAP Group



Stella Cox has been the managing director of DDCAP Group, a leading provider of intermediary services to the Islamic wholesale markets, since 1998.

Previously, Stella was a director of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson with responsibility for Middle Eastern institutional relationships and Islamic product development. She was involved in structuring the Islamic Fund, the first Shariah compliant global equity product and the Al Meezan Commodity Fund that invested in non-ferrous metals traded on the London Metal Exchange.

Stella served as a member of the IFSB Task Force on Markets and Instruments for Shariah Compliant Liquidity Management. Stella represents DDCAP on the Market and Product Development Committee of the International Islamic Financial Market.

Panelists:

Dr Bello Lawal Danbatta, Secretary-General, Islamic Financial Services Board



Dr Bello Lawal Danbatta, previously the director of the Centre of Consultancy and Executive Programmes at INCEIF, has over 26 years of combined experience in the private sector and academia, as well as in the financial services regulation and supervision sectors across Africa, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. He is a member of the AAOIFI, the Basel Consultative Group, the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants and the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Dr Bello holds a PhD in Islamic banking and finance from the International Islamic University Malaysia and an MBA in corporate finance.

Laurie Mayers, Associate Managing Director, Financial Institutions Group, Moody's Investors Service



Laurie Mayers is an associate managing director in Moody's European banking team. Laurie has responsibility for the analytical teams covering bank and non-bank financial institutions in the UK and Ireland as well as for the global investment banks located in EMEA and North America. Leveraging her risk and regulatory background, she also provides leadership within the financial institutions business unit on the cross-jurisdictional implications for banks of the implementation of Basel III, the BRRD and TLAC/MREL requirements, UK ring fencing and Brexit.

Laurie began her career as a staff economist at the New York Mercantile Exchange, and subsequently worked as a lending officer in the Commodity Finance Division at Chase Manhattan Bank following the completion of its credit analyst training program. Laurie holds a Master's degree in international affairs (with a specialization in international economics) from Columbia University SIPA and a Bachelor's degree in political economy from Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Dr Martin Carkett, Policy Lead – Science and Innovation, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change



Dr Martin Carkett is a policy lead for science and innovation at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, based in London in the UK. His work focuses on a broad range of areas including innovations in financial markets, health and biotech and in the structures of science and research. Dr Martin previously spent six years at Her Majesty's Treasury, where he most recently co-headed the innovative financing team, which led on the design and delivery of the UK's second

sovereign Sukuk and the UK's inaugural sovereign green bond. Prior to his time at Her Majesty's Treasury, Dr Martin completed a doctorate in genetics and developmental biology at University College London.

Dr Usman Chaudry, Chief Risk Officer, Gatehouse Bank



Dr Usman Chaudry joined Gatehouse Bank as the chief risk officer in January 2018. Prior to this, he was the risk director at Tandem, a digital challenger bank, responsible for risk management and compliance, and part of the management team that completed the acquisition of Harrods Bank.

10:50 – 11:15 | *Coffee*

11:15 – 12:45

GREEN, SOCIAL, TRANSITION AND SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED FINANCE AND INVESTMENT – SHARIAH COMPLIANT OPTIONS

Moderator:

Farmida Bi, Chair, Europe, Middle East and Asia, Norton Rose Fulbright



Farmida Bi is the EMEA chair and is based in London. She has more than 20 years of experience in capital markets and Islamic finance transactions, advising on English and New York law. She is also Norton Rose Fulbright's European head of Islamic finance.

Farmida is a graduate of Downing College, Cambridge and qualified as a solicitor in 1992, and as a New York attorney in 1999.

Panelists:

Allan Walker, Green Finance Specialist, Financial and Professional Services, Department for International Trade



Allan Walker joined the UK Department for International Trade (DIT) in London as the head of project finance in the capital investment team in 2015. In 2018, he joined the financial services team as a specialist in green finance, helping to attract large-scale overseas investment into UK energy and infrastructure projects (and UK-based specialist green funds) and exporting UK-based green finance expertise globally. He works closely with other ministries, quasi-government entities such as the Green Finance Institute, City of London Corporation and UK embassies worldwide.

Prior to joining DIT, Allan ran the fund management group for Masdar, the Abu Dhabi government's renewable energy investment company. His previous roles have been with global financial institutions such as JPMorgan, Credit Suisse and Black River (Cargill) in London, New York and Sao Paulo. He graduated with a Master of Arts degree in economic geography from Cambridge University.

Martina Macpherson, Global Head of ESG Strategy, ODDO BHF Asset Management & Private Equity



Martina Macpherson is the head of environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategy and an exco member of ODDO BHF Asset Management & Private Equity. She is also the president of the Network of Sustainable Financial Markets, a NextGen think tank in sustainable finance.

Martina is involved in various academic research projects in the field, and is a visiting fellow in sustainable finance at the University of Zurich and Henley Business School. She has an MBA certificate in finance and business from the London School of Business and Finance in the UK, and a Master of Arts degree in law and human sciences from the University of Frankfurt in Germany.

Nick Villiers, Director of Sustainable Finance, University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership



Nick Villiers is the director of sustainable finance at the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). Nick leads the Centre for Sustainable Finance, which helps financial institutions play a leading role in building a more sustainable economy.

The center works with banks via the Banking Environment Initiative, the insurance industry through ClimateWise and the investment industry through the Investment Leaders Group, ensuring that the research, tools and frameworks produced are cutting-edge, practitioner-relevant and impactful in driving change.

Rizal Mohamed Ali, Vice-President, Responsible Investment, Retirement Fund (Incorporated), Malaysia (KWAP)



Rizal Mohamed Ali was a legal officer for a public listed conglomerate prior to joining KWAP 10 years ago. He presently heads the Responsible Investment Section at KWAP, which was set up to manage all environmental, social and governance-related initiatives at KWAP. Rizal obtained a Bachelor of Laws (Honors) degree from Brunel University, London and the Chartered Islamic Finance Professional qualification from INCEIF.

Dr Simon Lord, Independent Sustainability Advisor



Dr Simon Lord has 34 years of experience in agricultural production systems and sustainability initiatives. Until recently, Dr Simon held the position of chief sustainability officer at Sime Darby Plantation, where he led sustainability and quality initiatives across the group. Dr Lord's move to Sime Darby followed its successful acquisition of New Britain Palm Oil, where he directed all sustainability programs across the New Britain Group. He is an adjunct professor at

the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment at the National University of Malaysia and a trustee of the Forest Conservation Fund.

12:45 – 13:00

PRESENTATION

Rofiya Hussain, Chief Product Officer, NOMO



Rofiya Hussain has worked in product and user experience roles for the past seven years. Passionate about fulfilling customers' needs and with expertise across technical, design, regulatory, commercial and operational functions, she is adept at liaising and communicating with a broad range of stakeholders, from start-ups to global organizations.

Rofiya principally works with the Bank of London and The Middle East (BLME)'s digital bank, Nomo, leading the development of its customer offerings and ensuring users across the UK and GCC experience the smooth running of the application. Nomo, the world's first international Islamic digital bank, was launched in July 2021. Rofiya is a graduate of the University of Warwick and has a Master's degree in physics.

13:00 – 13:45 | *Luncheon*

13:45 – 15:00

DRIVING DEVELOPMENT IN UK ISLAMIC CORPORATE BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS

Moderator:

Dr Natalie Schoon, CEO, Redmoney Consulting



Dr Natalie Schoon is a results-driven professional with a varied background across the financial industry including investment banking, treasury change management, capital adequacy, wholesale banknote operations, regulatory change (Basel Accords), risk management, compliance and Islamic finance. She has lived and worked in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Eastern Africa and works for both small and large international organizations globally.

Dr Natalie works closely with the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment in the UK on regulatory workbooks for, among others, Cyprus, Dubai, Qatar, Palestine and Kuwait.

Panelists:

Arshadur Rahman, Manager, Bank of England



Arshadur (Ash) Rahman is a manager in the Bank of England's Sterling Markets Division, and is also the bank's Islamic finance specialist. In this joint capacity, he leads the bank's Shariah compliant facility project which aims to establish a central bank deposit facility on a non-interest-bearing

basis for the first time in the UK. Ash previously worked in the bank's OTC Derivatives Data and Policy team, analyzing the impact on derivatives markets of the central clearing obligation under EMIR and Dodd-Frank. Ash holds a first degree in psychology and a Master's degree in finance from the London Business School.

Ayman Amin Sejiny, CEO and General Manager, Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector



Ayman Amin Sejiny is CEO of the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD), the private sector arm of the IsDB Group. Ayman is a highly accomplished financial industry leader. He served as CEO of Ibdar Bank, Bank Alkhair, Barclays Capital Saudi Arabia and as the chairman of Open-Silicon and Bahrain Financing Company Group as well as a board member of Unicorn Bahrain. Ayman has in-depth knowledge and more than 24 years of experience in investment and corporate banking in the local, regional and international markets. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in finance from Eastern Michigan University in the US.

Hichem Bouqniss, Executive Director, Business Operations, International Islamic Liquidity Management Corporation



Hichem Bouqniss is the Executive Director for Business Operations at the IILM, and is responsible for the execution of business strategies, the regular issuances of the IILM Sukuk, the distribution of the IILM Sukuk internationally, the origination and structuring of new assets in accordance with Shariah rulings and ratings criteria, as well as the smooth running of the US\$3.51 billion short-term certificate programme while ensuring all market risks are monitored and addressed.

Hichem Bouqniss holds a Master's degree in Management (Banking and Finance) from Toulouse Business School, France.

Razvan Dumitrescu, Principal, Local Currency and Capital Markets Development, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development



Razvan Dumitrescu joined the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) via the flagship IPP program and had the opportunity to work as part of various teams: Financial Strategy, LC2, Power & Energy (Istanbul) as well as the President's Office.

Prior to joining the EBRD, Razvan worked for Erste Group as part of the project finance team (Central and Eastern Europe) and Deutsche Bank in structured asset finance (Amsterdam). He holds a Master of Science degree in finance and investments from the Rotterdam School of Management and is an alumnus of the Aspen Young Leaders Programme.

15:00 – 16:00

INVESTORS ROUNDTABLE: UK OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARIAH COMPLIANT DIRECT REAL ESTATE AND PRIVATE EQUITY INVESTMENT

Moderator:

Abdulkader Thomas, Group CEO, SHAPE Knowledge Services



Abdulkader Thomas is the president and CEO of SHAPE for Economic Consulting doing business as SHAPE* Knowledge Services, Kuwait.

Abdulkader has over 30 years of diversified financial services experience. Abdulkader's background includes capital markets, real estate finance and trade finance. Abdulkader served in various international banks and dealt with the regulatory approval for Islamic products in different countries.

A graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in international trade, Abdulkader earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (Honors) in Arabic and Islamic studies from the University of Chicago.

Panelists:

Alisher Djumanov, Managing Partner, Bukhara Wealth



Alisher Djumanov has over 25 years of international experience in advisory, investment banking, venture capital, private equity and investment management. He is the managing partner of Bukhara Wealth, a Central Asia-based family office investment management firm focused on global investments across various asset classes.

Alisher graduated from the Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies, received his Master of International Affairs degree from Columbia University and an MBA from Oxford University.

Andy Thomson, Head of Real Estate, Bank of London & The Middle East



Andy Thomson is the head of real estate in the Bank of London & The Middle East and his role covers three areas:

- Real estate finance — leading a team focused on origination of development and investment debt for commercial and residential property.
- Real estate investment — leading a team focused on buying real estate assets in the UK and selling down equity to ultra-high-net-worth individuals in the GCC.
- Mortgages — leading a team that provides high value buy-to-let and holiday home mortgages.

Andy is an experienced real estate finance professional with a 25-year track record in origination, portfolio management, credit, debt advisory, special servicing and restructuring. He has experience in development and investment finance.

Ayda Habboush, Partner, Trowers & Hamlin



Ayda Habboush has almost 15 years of experience as a corporate solicitor and has been involved in a broad range of work, including mergers and acquisitions (both in the UK and international), with a particular focus on inward investment (from the MENA and ASEAN regions) in the real estate and hotels and leisure sectors, advising both owners and operators.

Ayda is head of Trowers's Hotel & Leisure Group and a member of the Islamic finance team. Ayda is also a member of the Arab Bankers Association and Arab British Chamber of Commerce.

Trevor Norman, Director — Islamic Finance and Funds, VG



Trevor Norman joined VG in 1988. He is responsible for heading up the funds and Islamic finance team, as well as overseeing both client facing and internal matters. Trevor has over 20 years of experience within funds and real estate and corporate and Shariah compliant structures and is highly involved in business development activities in the Middle East, involving regular trips to the region to meet clients and their advisors.

16:00 – 17:00

THE EVOLUTION OF UK FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY

Moderator:

Vineeta Tan, Managing Editor, Islamic Finance news



Vineeta Tan is a global Islamic finance journalist with over five years of experience in the journalism and publishing industry working independently and leading a team. She joined REDmoney in 2013 and is responsible for the editorial direction and content of Islamic Finance news (IFN).

Trained in journalism and sociology, Vineeta holds an Islamic Finance Qualification awarded by the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investments in the UK. Prior to joining REDmoney, Vineeta was attached to a research company in the US and was a freelance journalist.

Panelists:

Andrew Cunningham, Founder and Managing Director, Darien Analytics



Andrew Cunningham is the founder and managing director of Darien Analytics, a consulting firm that focuses on risk, regulation and governance in both developed and emerging markets. He is the editor of Arab Banker magazine and has a long involvement with Islamic finance.

Andrew's recent projects have included advising a North African construction company on anti-corruption measures, developing corporate governance policies for an East African logistics

firm, teaching corporate governance best practices in Cairo as part of the launch of the International Finance Corporation's Director Certification Programme and designing a banking best practices course for risk managers at the European Investment Bank.

Anouar Adham, Founder and CEO, CrowdToLive



Anouar Adham is an international entrepreneur focusing on ethical investment with a strong track record of setting up and managing teams. His experience is predominantly in asset management and front office investment banking areas, where he has structured and distributed innovative ethical products. Anouar has spent most of his time working in the Middle East, Europe and Southeast Asia, creating bridges between growth markets. Anouar's last venture was in the crowdfunding field with the creation of Elite Crowdfunding in 2016, a London-based company. The platform focuses on offering equity investment.

Areeb Siddiqui, Founder and CEO, KESTRL



Areeb Siddiqui is the founder and CEO of Kestrl, an award-winning app that makes it easy for Muslims to budget, save and invest in line with their values. Areeb has a Cambridge MBA with a background in consulting and risk advisory at Deloitte and PwC, specializing in working with banks and wealth managers in the digital space. Areeb Siddiqui is the founder and CEO of Kestrl, an award-winning app that makes it easy for Muslims to budget, save and invest in line with their values. Areeb has a Cambridge MBA with a background in consulting and risk advisory at Deloitte and PwC, specializing in working with banks and wealth managers in the digital space.

Sharjil Ahmed, Co-Founder and CEO, Cykub



Sharjil Ahmed is a tech entrepreneur and spent the early part of his career as a seasoned investment banker. He is the co-founder of Cykub, a UK-headquartered blockchain and fintech advisory and solutions provider. He is working on promoting fintech and blockchain solutions in the areas of finance, government, healthcare, Shariah compliant investments, Halal economy, sustainable development goals and financial inclusion.

Zaineb Sefiani, Founder, Carrera Learning



Zaineb Sefiani is the founder of Carrera Learning, an innovative e-learning platform. Zaineb is also a lecturer at University Paris Dauphine and at the University of Dubai. Zaineb holds a Master's degree in investments from the University of Birmingham. She also holds a Bachelor's degree in finance and marketing and participated in an exchange program at Boston College in the US during her undergraduate studies.