

Loud acclaim as Wise Media's seventh Abu Dhabi Summit exceeds all expectations, endorsed by participation at the highest level

ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2014 final report

Abu Dhabi and Milan, February 25, 2014 – The ID WORLD community's EMEA Summit brought together a world-class array of today's public and private sector decision makers on February 24-25, to debate topical issues and projects in the field of identification. Wise Media's seventh Abu Dhabi Summit, held under the patronage of the UAE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior and with the endorsement of the European Commission, examined the critical impact of investments made in ICT-based infrastructures and identity schemes in particular, as a key enabling element supporting today's trusted interaction and delivery models.

Government ministers from 7 nations, top representatives of international non-government organizations and decision makers from the public and private sectors contributed to a rich agenda of proceedings and exclusive meetings. The Secretary General of Interpol, the Inter-Regional Adviser of the United Nations and the Director International Relations of the European Commission addressed the audience on the opening day of the event. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, His Highness Lieutenant General Sheik Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan offered the Summit's opening remarks, hosted ministerial meetings on February 23 and 24 and participated in policy makers meetings before visiting the exhibition on February 25.

"Governments are progressing with the implementation of the digital society," said Sophie B. de la Giroday, President of Wise Media and Host of the Summit. "This happens today in all regions world-wide, whether through the establishment of its foundation in developing countries - with investments made in communication platforms as a premise, and eIDs as the enabler - or defining new avenues for its expansion within the public and private sectors where the same already exist. The transition progresses with different levels of maturity, at different speeds, and yet across all key sectors of our economy and society and even borders.

"In the context of today's information and communication infrastructures, creating or upgrading the functionality of identification schemes is at the center of today's modernization efforts. Many additional countries aim to reach the e-government milestone, empowering their society with government-issued, trusted digital identities. Several governments participating in the event highlighted how the African continent is one of the main new areas more recently included within this digitalization wave. From their side, developed countries seek new paradigms for secure communications, enabling cloud-based infrastructures for governments on a regional scale, envisaging open data standards, also for the cross-border leveraging of information in relation to eIDs.

"Security and transparency of supply chains, as well as new delivery models, are the objective of the modernization of ICT infrastructures similarly leveraging trusted identities in asset tracking and electronic transactions," added Sophie B. de la Giroday.

Highlights of this year's Summit include:

- **Patronage and opening address from UAE Deputy Prime Minister**
- **Meeting of ministers and initiatives for special delegations**
- **Decision makers from 35 countries**

- eGovernment trends illustrated by United Nations' Inter-Regional Adviser
- Global security initiatives presented by Interpol's Secretary General
- ICT-driven innovation discussed by the Minister of Communications, Egypt
- National ID's importance emphasized by the Deputy Minister Home Affairs, Tanzania
- Urban Development illustrated by the Minister of Home Affairs of Kurdistan
- Postal sector trends presented by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunication, Somalia and President of Saudi Post



ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2014 welcomed a high profile audience with active participation of top ranking government representatives, policy makers and industry leaders from all continents in open and vibrant debate



Left: The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, His Highness Lieutenant General Sheik Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan offered the Summit's opening remarks, hosted ministerial meetings on February 23 and 24 and participated in policy makers meetings before visiting the exhibition on February 25

Below left: One of the private meetings of ministers and policy makers on Day 1

Below right: Dr Ali Al Khouri, Director General



The activities of ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2014 extended over two days, bringing together leading experts from all continents with a high-profile audience of decision makers from the EMEA region. Speakers from 26 countries actively engaged an audience of 464 delegates in the effort to offer a platform for high-profile networking and cross-fertilization, in view of the design and deployment of new projects. The Summit was hosted once again by the prestigious and highly influential government organization, the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR). It was supported for the seventh consecutive year by the Emirates Identity Authority, acting as official local endorser welcoming the delegations in the name of the hosting country.

As an annual international gathering and regional appointment of the ID WORLD community, ID WORLD Abu Dhabi surpassed all previous editions in terms of quality of attendance and debate, as well as satisfaction of participating organizations involved as sponsors, exhibitors and conference delegations. Next appointments for this community include the ID WORLD Americas Summit and the annual ID WORLD International Congress in Frankfurt (Germany).

For additional information about high-profile participants and speakers who joined the debate in Abu Dhabi, please contact the Organizers.

The Conference Proceedings with speaker profiles and conference materials, as well as video materials can be requested contacting the Organizers at conference@idworldonline.com.

ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2014 – Testimonies from last year’s conference

Hon A.Silima Pereira, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Tanzania

“I am delighted that I was one of the invitees on the rolled out red carpet summit. The summit was well organized and with a well thought-out agenda and a list of speakers. It was very inspiring and educative. Keep it up!”

H.E. Karim Sinjari, Minister of Interior, Kurdistan

“I very much enjoyed the conference. I do look forward to further collaborating with the organizers.”

Sinisa Macan, Director General - Agency for ID Documents, Registers and Data Exchange, Bosnia and Herzegovina

“I am extremely glad that I had the opportunity to hear the experiences of speakers from other countries regarding the use of eIDs. All speakers were experienced and had great presentations. Meeting colleagues from the other countries who represent the same business sector allows to learn about different experiences and good practices.”

Dr. Jan De Kinder, Director General - National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology, Belgium

“The ID World conference in Abu Dhabi allowed me to meet a number of persons who were very interested in my same area of expertise. The side events were remarkably well organized and appreciated!”

Shane Brown, Acting Executive Director Safety and Security - Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa

“I must once again thank-you for the invitation and view it as an honour to have been invited. The Sustainability Summit 2014 provided something for all delegates and provided exceptional networking opportunities as well as practical information on the implementation of new technology including exciting new strategies. In conclusion I can highly recommend the conference as a platform that achieves its goals. I believe all the speakers were of a high caliber and all brought something of value to the conference. I found it exceptionally interesting with a variety of topics that were of interest to me.”

Reinhard Posch, CIO - Federal Government of Austria

“The prime value of a summit of this kind is bringing together different cultures and approaches. There is an urgent and increasing need for this effort of building bridges and intensifying the information and technology exchange at a high level.”

Minerva Novero-Belec, Policy Specialist - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

“It was a pleasure to participate in the Sustainability Summit 2014 in Abu Dhabi. The whole event was a great opportunity to engage with leaders and experts in the field, and to learn from countries across regions the strategic ways they use ICTs to enhance the effectiveness of their governments and enhance the lives of their people. My congratulations to the organizers for successfully convening participants from across regions and sectors to focus on common goals. I think the organizers did a great job in selecting speakers, and the speakers themselves did a great job in sharing what they do.”

Tom Miller, Director - Stuart & Deville

"I found exposure to governmental officials from developing countries a great experience especially in hearing what their problems and requirements are to be solved. It was interesting to hear from the Ministers what is happening in the developing countries."

Claus Huenting, VP of EMEA Sales - CrossMatch

"I was very pleased with the Event. The venue, exhibition area and topics and panels were brilliant chosen. We found everything as agreed and had no problems of any sort with the technical services delivered."

Wim Tappij Gielen, Senior VP Global Sales & Service - Datacard

"I trust that the meeting in Abu Dhabi was successful for you. One of my friends attended the show for the first time and he mentioned that it was an impressive event."

Khaled Almobarak, President - Mawj Training & Consulting

"The conference was good, the exhibition was excellent."

Vladimir Orlic, Systems Architect - Vlatacom

"In general, my impression is very positive one."

Detlef Houdeau, Snr. Director Business Development - Infineon Technologies

"This Summit displayed many news on technology, standards, programs and regulations on electronic ID documents in the public sector."

Reinhard Jurisch, CEO - Microsensys

"It's nice to be in touch again after your fantastic event. We would like say thank you for your invitation and your perfect support. We will take part again in your event in Abu Dhabi."

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2015!

ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2015 will open its doors under the patronage of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, H.H. Sheik Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, endorsed by the European Commission and the Emirates Identity Authority. The conference will be hosted once again by the prestigious and highly influential government organization, the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR).

The eighth EMEA conference on the strategic topic of identification will see the Abu Dhabi Summit bring together leading experts from both the public and the private sectors, to actively engage our community in their effort to share experiences, strengthen relations and establish a common vision on how to leverage secure identification for societal progress and economic development. ID WORLD Abu Dhabi will offer a platform for high-profile networking and cross-fertilization, for the design and deployment of innovative ICT-driven projects across the region and worldwide.

Media Contact: Pier Costa: pierpaolo.costa@wisemedia.com