# Al-Forward Summit

2-3 December 2025

Agenda

Day 1

## 2<sup>nd</sup> of December : Al strategic Orientations: From Vision to Action

Time	Session/Panel							
08:00 - 09:00	Registration & Networking Coffee							
HIGH-LEVEL OPENING SESSION								
	MC: Mr. Bocar BA - CEO at SAMENA Council							
09:00 - 09:30	High-level Leaders addresses:							
	<ul> <li>HE/ Eng. Mohamed Ben AMOR         Director General of the Arab ICT Organization (AICTO)</li> <li>ME/Mr. Mohamed Ali NAFTI         Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration, and Tunisians Abroad – Republic of Tunisia</li> <li>HE/ Mr. Sofien HEMISSI         Minister of Communication Technologies – Republic of Tunisia</li> <li>HE. Mrs. Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN         Secretary-General of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)</li> <li>HE/Mr. Ahmed Aboul GHEIT         Secretary-General of the League of Arab States (LAS)</li> </ul>							
	High-level Keynote Address:							
09:30 - 09:45	"From Information Society to Intelligence Society"  Dr. Bilel JAMOUSSI - Deputy Director of TSB & Chief, Study Groups & Policy Department (SPD)- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)  High-level WSIS+20 Panel:							
09:45 – 11:00	WSIS+20 Outcomes and Future Directions towards "Intelligence							
	Society" This ministerial panel will reflect on the outcomes of WSIS+20, share national and regional/ global perspectives, and explore inclusive and collaborative pathways to advance the information society and sustainable digital development, with particular attention to the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence. This high-level panel will conclude with the Tunis declaration about the WSIS: "Advancing the Transition from the Information Society to the Intelligent Society".							
	Moderator: Mr. Ayman El-SHERBINY - Chief of ICT Policies and Digital Development - United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)							
	Distinguished participants:  Ministers' Statements  HE/Mr. Sofien HEMISSI  Minister of Communication Technologies – Republic of Tunisia  HE/Mr. MMADI HASSANI Oumouri  Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Digital Economy - Union of the Comoros  HE/Mr. Abdulbaset Salem ALBAOUR  Chairman of the General Authority for Communications and Informatics – Libya							

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	HE/ Mrs. Hoda Al-WAHAIDI  Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Relecting						
	Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital Economy - Palestine						
	& Head of the Executive Council of AICTO  Panelists:						
	HE. Mrs. Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN						
	Secretary-General of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)						
	HE/ Eng. Mohamed Ben AMOR						
	Director General of the Arab ICT Organization						
	HE/Mr. Lacina KONE						
	Director General and CEO of Smart Africa						
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11:00 - 11:15	Keynote:						
	Mr. Felix FENG - President of Huawei Cloud Northern Africa						
11:15 - 11:45	Networking Coffee-Break & Visit to "Al Innovation Pavilion" + Al Startups'						
	Village						
11:45 -12:00	Keynote:						
	Dr. Maen Al QATAMIN - Founder and Chairman of EntreViable Jordan						
	Keynote and Discussion:						
12:00 – 13:00							
12.00	The Road to the "Intelligence Society": Unveiling the Al Landscape						
	in the Region and Unifying the Future through Building the						
	Regional Al Innovation Ecosystem						
	This session, anchored in the Arab Al Initiative and the strategic guidance						
	of the League of Arab States' General Secretary, will present the unified						
	regional approach to Artificial Intelligence.						
	The keynote speech and the interventions will detail the major milestones						
	and concerted efforts undertaken under the League's umbrella,						
	including:						
	The strategic objectives of the <b>Arab Al Initiative</b> , which aims to harness						
	Al for sustainable development						
	The process of the <b>Arab Al Strategy</b> and its institutional frameworks						
	The principles embedded in the Arab Al Ethical Charter ensuring						
	responsible, culturally aware, and Arab values-driven AI deployment.						
	The discussion will showcase regional advances in governance,						
	infrastructure, capacity building, and applied research, while directly						
	addressing the strategic challenges and opportunities inherent in building						
	a pan-Arab AI ecosystem.						
	Participants will goin oritical insights into have the Laggue of Arab Chates in						
	Participants will gain critical insights into how the League of Arab States is						
	unifying the efforts of ecosystem players—policymakers, regulators, industry, regional organizations, and academia—to create an inclusive,						
	ethical, and competitive Arab Intelligence Society.						
	dinitial, and competitive Alab intelligence society.						
	This collaborative vision is essential for ensuring technological sovereignty,						
	bridging the digital divide, and positioning the Arab world as a leader in						
	the global knowledge economy.						
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	Moderator: Dr. Adel BESROUR - Vice President of Products and Innovation,						
	Sahab National Company – Saudi Arabia						
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### Keynote: "Arab Al Initiative"

 Dr. Ali FAHMI - Dean of the College of Artificial Intelligence at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport

### **Speakers:**

- Dr. Houda BARAKA Advisor of The Egyptian Minister of ICT for Technology Talents Development & Chair of the Arab AI WG
- Pr. Abdelmajid Ben AMARA Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Scientific Research Councils
- Dr. Mohammad Firas BAKOUR Chairman of the Arab Union for Internet and Communications - ARISPA
- Dr. Aymen GHONEIM Assistant Secretary General of the Arab Federation for Digital Economy – AFDE

### 13:00 - 13:30

### Al Excellence: Success Stories and Scalable Impact Showcase

This session is designed to be a dynamic platform for inspiration and practical learning. It will showcase **inspiring**, **real-world Al success stories** drawn from leading countries, pioneering organizations, and influential personalities that have effectively translated ambitious **Al strategies into tangible**, **scalable outcomes**.

### **Key Focus Areas:**

- Best Practice Dissemination: Leaders will share proven methodologies and implementation frameworks for ethical, responsible, and effective AI deployment across key sectors.
- Lessons Learned: Presenters will openly discuss critical challenges encountered during the implementation of large-scale Al initiatives, providing invaluable insights and lessons learned for mitigating risk and avoiding common pitfalls.
- Scalable Initiatives: The session will highlight "blueprints for success"—initiatives that demonstrate high potential for replication and adoption across the Arab region, driving both regional and global AI advancement and accelerating the path to the Intelligence Society.

The goal is to provide attendees with a practical roadmap and actionable inspiration for successfully implementing their own AI strategies and AI-driven business.

Dr. **Abdulrahman Bin Tariq HABIB** - Director of the International Center for Artificial Intelligence Research and Ethics (ICAIRE) Deputy Chief Strategy Officer at the Saudi Data and Al Authority (SDAIA) - Saudi Arabia

Showcase of the Kingdom's experience in the Incentive Badges Initiative for AI Ethics

Mr. **Azzam SOUALMIA** - Entrepreneur & Founder of Swiver, Driving Innovation in Startups

Swiver has successfully harnessed AI to streamline operations, deliver predictive insights, and drive scalable, intelligent solutions for clients across the region

### 13:30 - 14:30

Lunch & « Al Innovation Pavillon » + «Al Startups' Village » Tour

### 14:30 - 15:30

Policy Roundtable:

# "Al Governance: Interoperability towards regional and Global vision"

This high-impact Policy Roundtable convenes leading AI experts and policymakers from **national**, **regional**, **and global levels** to tackle the critical challenge of **interoperable AI governance**.

The session will serve as a platform to **strategize and forge innovative pathways** for regulatory harmonization. Participants will engage in focused discussions on how to:

- Align National Strategies: Ensure individual national AI plans and regulatory frameworks are mutually compatible with broader regional objectives and evolving global standards.
- Drive Cross-Border Collaboration: Catalyze necessary cooperation in data governance, infrastructure security, and ethical adherence to facilitate the seamless deployment of AI technologies across the Arab region.
- Shape a Unified Future: Develop effective, principles-based Al regulatory and governance frameworks that robustly address unique regional priorities while meeting rigorous international standards for responsible, ethical, and effective Al adoption.

The ultimate goal is to move beyond disparate policies to create a **unified regulatory environment** essential for building a competitive and trusted Arab AI innovation ecosystem that can effectively engage with the global digital economy.

**Moderator:** Dr. **Nibal IDELBI -** Senior Advisor in Digital Transformation and Innovation Policies - Former Director at UN-ESCWA

#### Panelists:

- Mr. Hadi KOBEISSI PwC Partner Technology & Digital Consulting
- Dr. Mohamad Nawar Al-AWA- Regional Advisor on Technology for Development - UN-ESCWA
- Mr. Daniel PAP Legal Advisor to the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), Digital Development Unit, Council of Europe
- Mr. Anatoly MOTKIN -President StrategEast
- Mr. Adnane Ben HALIMA Vice President in Charge of Public Relations of Huawei Northern Africa

15:30 – 15:45	Keynote: "Al Ethics & Governance"  • Mr. Wael EZZAT – Head of Public Policy & Government Relations,			
	TikTok North Africa			
15:45 – 16:30	Deep Dive Session (UNESCO): Responsible AI & Ethics: From guidelines to actions			
	This session is focused on moving beyond ethical AI principles and guidelines toward concrete actions in the responsible development and deployment of AI technologies. It explores the practical implementation of UNESCO's Global Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, specifically through the Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM).			
	It aims to translate high-level ethical guidelines into actionable strategies, fostering accountability and ethical AI impact in the Arab region, to ensure AI tools are used responsibly and inclusively, leaving no one behind and serving as a tool for the benefit of humanity.			
	Key themes of such sessions typically include:			
	Practical pathways for embedding ethical AI principles into real-world AI systems and policies.			
	<ul> <li>Strengthening AI governance ensures sustainability, non-discrimination, and human rights protection.</li> <li>Implementation challenges and successes across different sectors in</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>the Arab countries.</li> <li>Role of governments, private sector, and civil society in ethical Al adoption.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Tools like readiness and ethical impact assessments initiated by UNESCO to guide responsible AI integration.</li> </ul>			
	The session will focus on the <b>UNESCO RAM</b> and the experiences of Arab countries that have initiated the RAM process or completed their reports, with the aim to motivate and guide other countries to engage in the process.			
	Moderator: Mrs. Areej ATALLA - Head of Social and Human Sciences Sector at UNESCO Cairo Office.			
	Speakers :			
	<ul> <li>Mr. Mohamed FARAHAT – Legal Expert, a member of the UNESCO Global Network of Experts on Ethics of AI and the Rule of Law - Egypt</li> <li>Dr. Toumi BOUCHENTOUF – Professor at the National School of Applied Sciences of Oujda (ENSAO) at Mohammed Premier University in Morocco (UMP) – Morocco</li> </ul>			
	Dr. Hichem BESBES – Professor at Sup'Com, University of Carthage & the Principal Expert for the Tunisian Al Readiness Assessment Report Tunisia			
	Dr. Houda BARAKA - ICT Minister's Advisor for Talents Development and Al National Lead, Chair of the Arab Al Working Group at the League of Arab States			

of Arab States

Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Tariq HABIB - Director of the International Center for Artificial Intelligence Research and Ethics (ICAIRE)
 Deputy Chief Strategy Officer at the Saudi Data and Al Authority (SDAIA) - Saudi Arabia

### 16:30 - 17:30

### Pan-Regional dialogue: "From fragmentation to Convergence."

This **Pan-Regional panel** will focus on the critical need to unify disparate approaches to AI regulation and national strategy across different regions. The dialogue will move beyond identifying problems to actively mapping pathways toward the development of coherent governance frameworks that are essential for fostering genuine collaboration, mutual trust, and seamless interoperability.

Key discussions will center on extracting valuable lessons learned from existing regional and global initiatives, pinpointing specific opportunities for alignment, and exploring models for inclusive, multi-stakeholder governance.

Ultimately, this dialogue aims to articulate a strategic vision that ensures the adoption and application of Al reliably serve both shared regional interests and broader global priorities for responsible and sustainable technological advancement.

 Moderator: Mr. Kamel SAADAOUI – Chairman of the National Regulatory Authority of Tunisia - INTT

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### Panelists:

- Dr. Khaled WALI Minister plenipotentiary, Director of ICTs Dept. League of Arab States (LAS)
- Mrs. Aitana RATIER WERBIN, Legal Officer, Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Digital Transformation and Civil Service (Spain); Member of the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)
- Mrs. Sylvia SOLLF Practice Manager for Digital Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan (MENAAP) – World Bank
- Dr. Islam AMRO National Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence Center (NDTC) - Palestine
- Mr. Calvain Nangue Strategic Advisor ICT Skills and SADA Sustainability, Smart Africa

### Day two:

### 3<sup>rd</sup> of December:

# Main event: December 2&3, 2025 | Day 2: Innovation, Leadership & Global Outlook

Session/Panel
Plenary Session: Building the Intelligence Society: Innovating for Regional Leadership
This high-profile Plenary Session is dedicated to exploring how innovation serves as the foundational engine driving the development and realization of the Arab and Regional Intelligence Society. The discussion will move beyond theoretical potential to highlight tangible key initiatives and breakthrough technological advancements currently shaping the regional AI landscape. Crucially, the session will emphasize the necessity of deep synergy among core ecosystem stakeholders:
<ul> <li>Policymakers: Providing clear, forward-looking guidance, governance frameworks, and harmonized regulations that ensure responsible and trustworthy AI deployment.</li> <li>Industry: Leading application, commercialization, and the adoption of ethical-by-design AI solutions.</li> <li>Academia: Fueling foundational research, talent development, and the integration of AI ethics and governance into educational and research programs.</li> <li>Other Stakeholders: Including startups, civil society, and investors who contribute to innovation while upholding transparency, accountability, and fairness.</li> </ul>
In parallel, the session will underscore the <b>centrality of robust governance and ethical safeguards</b> —including regional interoperability of standards, transparent data practices, accountability mechanisms, and inclusive design—to ensure that technological progress is aligned with societal values and public trust. The ultimate objective is to delineate a shared, actionable roadmap for fostering regional leadership, achieving true digital integration across Arab countries, and sustaining a forward-looking, competitive digital ecosystem capable of driving economic transformation, societal well-being, and ethically grounded innovation.
Moderator: Mr. Anatoly MOTKIN -President - StrategEast

	Panelists:				
	<ul> <li>Mr. Michel ROGY – Regional Director, World Bank</li> <li>Mr. Lucky La RICCIA – Vice President and Head of Cloud Software &amp; Services, Ericsson Europe, Middle East &amp; Africa</li> <li>Ms. Nadia BRAHMI – Technology Director, GSMA</li> <li>Mr. Karim AHRES – CEO, Netcom Tunisia</li> <li>Mr. Moez KAMOUN – Partner – Consulting Leader – PwC Tunisia</li> </ul>				
10:30 – 10:45	Keynote: Ms. Sihem MHISSEN - Director of Corporate Information Systems at Tunisie Telecom "Sustainable Al Infrastructure: Building a Sovereign Digital Future for the Arab Region"				
10:45 – 11:05	Deep Dive Session: Quantum-Resilient AI: Securing Generative Systems in the Post Quantum Era  The convergence of Artificial Intelligence and quantum computing is redefining both innovation and risk. As quantum technologies rapidly advance, the cryptographic foundations that secure today's digital and AI ecosystems face unprecedented disruption. At the same time, generative AI systems—now deeply integrated into decision making, cybersecurity operations, and critical infrastructures—represent a new class of high-value assets vulnerable to quantum-enabled attacks. In this emerging landscape, quantum resilience is no longer a theoretical pursuit; it is a strategic imperative.  Moderation & Introduction: Dr. Rim FAIZ - Professor at IHEC of Carthage – Tunisia  ——————————————————————————————————				
11:05 – 11:25	Cybersecurity Practice – Expleo Group - France  Networking Coffee-Break & Visit to "Al Innovation Pavilion" + Al				
11:25 – 11:45	Startups' Village Arab Al Hackathon 2025 Awarding Ceremony				
	The Arab Al Hackathon 2025 Awarding Ceremony celebrates the creativity and technical excellence of young Arab researchers and innovators who have explored applied research on Al and its Arab applications to address regional challenges. The event honors their achievements, highlights the transformative potential of Al in the Arab region, and inspires the next generation of Al leaders to continue driving innovation and positive impact.				
11:45 – 12:45	Al Innovation Showcase: Presentations & Demos				
	This session is a <b>dynamic and interactive platform</b> designed to bring together cutting-edge <b>AI solutions from across the globe</b> . The showcase will feature presentations and live demonstrations of				

advanced AI applications currently transforming key sectors, including healthcare, education, agriculture, and smart cities, alongside cuttingedge tools focused on ethical AI, digital trust, and robust data governance.

The session will specifically emphasize innovations that demonstrate a commitment to responsible, sovereign AI adoption, ensuring that technological progress respects local values and maintains data control. Serving as a hub for knowledge exchange, the showcase actively fosters cross-regional collaboration, the sharing of best practices, and the necessary investment and partnership to scale impactful AI innovations that drive sustainable economic growth and accelerate global digital transformation while securing digital sovereignty for the region.

Moderator: Dr. Mohamed HAMDI - Professor - SUP'COM

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### Speakers:

- Dr. **Nibal IDELBI** Senior Advisor in Digital Transformation and Innovation Policies Former Director at UN-ESCWA
- Mr. Dorloi VAN Presales Engineer Zoho Corporation -ManageEngine
- Dr. Maël PEGNY- Al Consultant Sama Partners
- Mr. Hosni CHAIEB Global Business Development Director at Neoledge
- Mr. **Yassine FRIAA** Digital Transformation Officer Tunisian Poste

### 12:45 - 13:45

# Al NextGen Stage: Empowering Arab Innovators through Engaging Dialogue

This platform is a **dynamic showcase dedicated to spotlighting and celebrating exceptional Arab startups and young innovators** who are actively harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence to deliver impactful, scalable, and sustainable solutions for the region and the world.

The **AI NextGen Stage** provides a unique and essential space for youthled initiatives to:

- Showcase Cutting-Edge Projects: Present their AI innovations and technologies.
- Facilitate Direct Dialogue: Engage in meaningful, two-way conversation and mentorship with key ecosystem leaders, ensuring youth perspectives directly inform the regional agenda.
- Bridge the Gap: Create a crucial space for youth to exchange ideas and share experiences with policymakers, industry leaders, investors, and technical experts, addressing real-world challenges in scaling their businesses.

Through these focused interactions, the session aims to **inspire the next** wave of innovation, amplify youth voices in the digital transformation conversation, and accelerate the Arab region's journey toward an

**inclusive, future-ready, and youth-driven digital economy** by directly connecting talent with resources and governance.

**Moderator:** Mr. **Azzam SOUALMIA** - Entrepreneur & Founder of Swiver, Driving Innovation in Startups

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### Panelists:

- Mr. Ammar HAMADIEN Consultant Principal Consultant & Responsible of Strategic Partnerships – Salience Consulting
- Mr. Daniel del VALLE First Ambassador of the International Youth Organization to the United Nations
- Mr. Mohamed DERBALA Managing Partner Africa Business Hub at M&P
- Dr. Ashraf ABDELHADI Director of the National Digital Transformation & Artificial Intelligence Center (NDTC) at the Arab American University – Palestine

### **Startups Showcase:**

- Startup 1: Mr. Adnen CHOUIBI Rodoud
- Startup 2: Mr. Adnen LABIDI Instaware
- Startup 3: Ms. **Manel ENNAHEDH** Terrasens

### 13:45 – 14:45 | Lunch & Pavilion Tour

### 14:45 – 15:15 Voices of Innovation: "Arab Women Leadership in Al"

This powerful session is a dedicated spotlight and celebratory platform highlighting the extraordinary achievements, insights, and perspectives of pioneering Arab women leaders in the field of Artificial Intelligence. The platform enables these influential women to share their transformative experiences and inspire the next generation, while engaging in strategic dialogue focused on concrete measures for fostering gender diversity, inclusion, and equitable opportunity within the rapidly evolving AI ecosystem, thereby securing Arab women's leadership role in building the future Intelligence Society.

**Moderator**: Pr. **Janane kHOURY** - Lecturer at the Lebanese University and an international expert in cyber legislation and Artificial Intelligence - Lebanon

### Speakers:

- Dr. Houda BARAKA Advisor to The Egyptian Minister of ICT for Technology Talents Development & Chair of the Arab AI WG
- Ms. Nadia BRAHMI Technology Director GSMA
- Dr. Mona Nabil DEMAIDI Vice President for Al and Director of International Relations at AAUP - Palestine
- Dr. Rim FAIZ Professor at IHEC of Carthage Tunisia

### 15:15 -16:15

# Discussion session: "Technology for Achieving Sustainable Development: Strengthening Sustainable Regional Partnerships"

Within the framework of the follow-up of the implementation of the roadmap: "Towards Sustainable Digital Transformation 2025-2030", This session will focus on the importance of "building sustainable regional partnerships in the fields of technology" and on strengthening joint action among various stakeholders in the Arab region, including governments, research institutions, the private sector, regional organizations, and civil society, with the aim of achieving a tangible and sustainable collective developmental impact. The session will present successful models of regional cooperation in the areas of digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and innovation, and will discuss mechanisms for building strategic partnerships based on trust, knowledge exchange, and alignment of efforts and visions to address common challenges and achieve inclusive digital development in the Arab region.

The session will include several questions for the speakers under the following themes:

- Opportunities for Arab-international cooperation to accelerate smart and sustainable digital transformation.
- The role of governments, the private sector, and universities in building an effective innovation ecosystem.
- Proposed regional initiatives to enhance the use of technology especially artificial intelligence—in development: "Al for Good."
- Sustainable financing mechanisms and technical support for technology projects with social impact.

**Moderator:** Minister Plenipotentiary Dr. **Nada El AGIZI** - Director of Sustainable Development and International Cooperation Department - League of Arab States

### **High-level panelists:**

- HE/ Eng. Mohamed Ben AMOR Director General of the Arab ICT Organization
- Dr. Mostafa H. HODEIB President of the Arab Academy for Administrative, Financial, and Bankina Sciences
- Dr. Mohammad Firas BAKOUR Chairman of the Arab Union for Internet and Communications - ARISPA
- Mr. Fayçal BAYOULI Expert ICT Candidate of Tunisia for the post of UAT SG

### 16:15 - 16:30

### Closing Ceremony

# Declaration "The Arab Intelligence Society: A Pathway and Roadmap"

The declaration will present a strategic vision for building an inclusive, innovative, and competitive Arab Intelligence Society. The declaration outlines key milestones, initiatives, and collaborative efforts across the region, providing a clear roadmap for responsible AI adoption, digital transformation, and regional integration.