



THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India
भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान
IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
Statutory body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Vision

"To be a global leader in promoting
good corporate governance"

Motto

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। *इष्टवैरुते तृप्तेः बोधेनैः कृते कृत्वा*

Mission

"To develop high calibre professionals
facilitating good corporate governance"

#ICSIMiddleEastConf

HIGHLIGHTS

ICSI Middle East Conference 2025

on

Good Governance: Empowering Capital Markets

Hosted by: ICSI Middle East (DIFC) NPIO



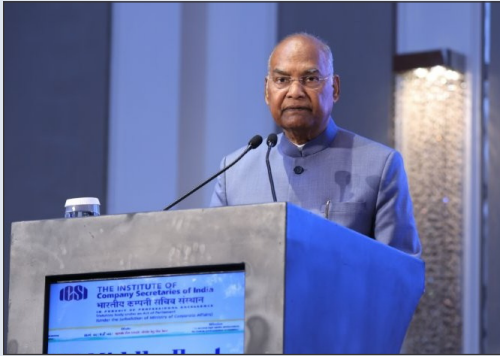
24-26 April 2025



Dubai, UAE



Opening Plenary



Chief Guest: **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**
Hon'ble Former President of India

Envisioning the Middle East Conference as an opportunity to build partnerships, Shri Ram Nath Kovind said, "The ICSI has always been at the forefront of growth and development, in both India and abroad. Company Secretary Professionals nurtured by the ICSI not just ensure the highest standards of transparency and competence but promote ethical wealth creation".

Emphasizing the pace and trajectory of India-UAE bilateral relations, Mr. Satish Kumar Sivan commended the ICSI for hosting the Conference in Dubai. He stated, "The growth of trade, investments, and diaspora in the UAE, is a testimony to its spirit of facilitating professionals to express their talent".



Guest of Honour: **Mr. Satish Kumar Sivan**
Consul General, Consulate General of India, Dubai



Guest of Honour: **H.E. Dr. Maria Hanif Al Qassim**
Assistant Undersecretary of Economic Policies & Studies, Ministry of Economy, UAE

Calling the ICSI Middle East Conference 2025, a catalyst for change, H.E. Dr. Maria Hanif Al Qassim said, "The discussions at the Conference would collectively foster global economic growth and unlock opportunities for increased collaboration between India and UAE, specifically in economy and trade".



Guest of Honour: H.E. Mirza Hussain Al Sayegh
Director, Office of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Highlighting the various agreements inked between India and UAE, H.E. Mirza Hussain Al Sayegh said, "India and UAE hold a very prominent position today, in the global economy and the enduring partnership between the two countries is a result of years of irrefutable support to each other".

Stressing upon the importance of collective efforts, H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al Kindi, said "I am delighted to be a part of this thought-provoking ICSI Middle East Conference. The discussions would surely provide valuable insights and guidance to the policymakers, corporate leaders, and regulators".



Guest of Honour: H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al Kindi
Senior Vice President, Invescore and
Former Minister for Environment & Water, UAE

Keynote Address



Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim, Managing Partner, Ibrahim.N.Partners

The ICSI Middle East Conference 2025 on Good Governance was enriched by a compelling keynote address delivered by Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim, revered as the "UAE ECM Guru,". His address focussed the critical role of robust governance frameworks in empowering and fostering trust within capital markets, drawing upon his extensive experience in innovative market structures and project finance.

Plenary II

IPO: Catalyzing Growth in Emerging Capital Markets



Mr. Mukesh Agarwal, Chief Financial Officer, Spinneys Dubai LLC

Mr. Andrew Tarbuck, Partner, Head of Capital Markets, Al Tamimi & Company

Mr. Husam El-Khatib, Head of Legal, Arqaam Global Markets

Mr. Bernard Martin, Director, HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd

The session delved into the dynamic role of Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) in catalyzing growth within emerging capital markets. The session provided a comprehensive overview of prevailing IPO market trends, examined the nuances of regulatory frameworks and listing requirements across the region, and analyzed the crucial factors of investor appetite, IPO pricing and valuation methodologies. Furthermore, the discussion extended to the critical aspect of post-IPO performance and its implications for market sustainability and future listings.

Plenary III

AI in Governance Shaping Corporate Leadership

The session focused on the transformative influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in governance and its profound impact on shaping corporate leadership. The session explored the burgeoning role of AI-driven decision-making processes, examined the evolving landscape of global AI ethics standards, and addressed the critical considerations of cybersecurity and data protection in an AI-integrated environment. The plenary also highlighted the increasing significance of leadership analytics in driving strategic organizational direction.



Dr. Bhaskar Dasgupta, Chair of the Board of Directors, Apex Group Ltd

Dr. Shamini Ragavan, Associate Professor of Law, University of Birmingham Dubai

Mr. Chehade El Kahi, General Counsel, Emirates Petroleum Company

CS Suresh Pandey, Council Member, The ICSI

Plenary IV

Anti-Money Laundering



Mr. Adil Shafi, Partner, Anjarwalla Collins & Haidermota

Mr. Narasimha Das, Partner, Crowe UAE

Ms. Shruthi Joseph, Senior Compliance Consultant, TMF Services Dubai

The session addressed the critical and evolving landscape of Anti-Money Laundering (AML). The session emphasized the importance of a Risk-Based Approach in identifying and mitigating financial crime, alongside the necessity of robust Investor Due Diligence processes. Discussions also covered the unique challenges and considerations posed by Cryptocurrency and Virtual Assets in the AML framework and explored the latest advancements in Global AML regulations and Regulatory Technology solutions.

Plenary V

The Convergence of Public and Private Equity

The session explored the growing convergence of Public and Private Equity markets. Discussions centred on the trends in Global Valuation Alignment across these asset classes and the emergence of Hybrid Investment Strategies. It also examined the significant Impact of Institutional Stewardship in both public and private equity, with a specific focus on Capital Building and fostering Resilience during times of economic crisis within the MENA and Asian regions.



Mr. Kailashnath Adhikari, Managing Director, Governance
Now-Sri Adhikari Brothers Network

Mr. Joywin Mathew, Partner, DLA Piper Middle East LLP

Mr. Tariq Khan, Head of International Arbitration, M&CO Legal

Mr. Anwar El Khatib, Chief Legal Counsel, Salik

Plenary VI

India -UAE Bilateral Ties



CS Vijay Ojha, Group Company Secretary, Sharaf Group, Dubai
Mr. Nandi Vardhan Mehta, Chief Financial Officer, KAAF Investments
Dr. Abhay Sinha, Director General, Services Export Promotion Council, India
Mr. B.G. Krishnan, Consul (Economic, Trade, Commerce & Education),
 Consulate General of India, Dubai

The session focused on strengthening India-UAE Bilateral Ties, providing an in-depth analysis of the current Trade and Economic Relations between the two nations, and also discussed the impact of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). It also covered the Ease of Doing Business (EODB) environment, prevailing Investment Trends and the dynamics of Services Export-Import. It further explored significant opportunities of fostering Economic Resilience and Sustainable Growth through this strategic partnership.

Plenary VII

Climate Finance

The session addressed the critical domain of Climate Finance, encompassing both the burgeoning Green Bond Market and the emerging Blue Bond Market as key instruments for mobilizing capital towards sustainable projects. Discussions centred on these financing mechanisms, alongside the innovative approaches of Blended Finance and the importance of cross-sector Partnerships in scaling climate action. In addition, the plenary covered the evolving landscape of Climate Disclosure and Reporting standards. It also examined the increasing adoption of Climate Indexed Investing as a method for aligning financial portfolios with broader environmental goals.



CS Venkata Ramana R., Council Member, The ICSI
Mr. Husam El-Khatib, Head of Legal, Arqam Global Markets
Mr. Sumit Sinha, Resident Representative, India Exim Bank, Dubai

Group Photograph



Study Tour at Dubai Financial Market (DFM)



The Conference commenced with an exclusive Study Tour of the Dubai Financial Market (DFM) on April 24, 2025, offering attendees a firsthand experience of the region's vibrant financial landscape.

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इष्टार्क the truth. abide by the law.

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Headquarters

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