



# HOLY LAND CHRISTIAN ECUMENICAL FOUNDATION



## 14<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: 3RD BUSINESS, INVESTMENTS & ICT CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012

### 3<sup>RD</sup> BUSINESS, INVESTMENT & ICT CONFERENCE

9:00 - 10:00 am      **Registration**

10:00 - 10:30 am      **Introduction to Conference**

**Dr. Jad Daniel**, *Partner & Vice President, IBM Global Business Service*

**Christine Hill**, *HCEF Business Coordinator, Vice President, Service Elements*

#### **Opening Remarks**

**Rateb Rabie**, *KCHS, HCEF President and CEO*

10:30 am- 1:00 pm      **Doing Business in Palestine is Investing in Peace**

This session will address the current state of the Palestinian economy and workforce as well as a multitude of business and investment opportunities in Palestine. Discussion will include the business sectors of **banking services (e.g., financing and loans) and Palestine stock market, ICT and Call Centers, hospitality and tourism**. Focus will also be on products, services, and outsourcing opportunities. Expertise and requirements are available from representatives of Palestinian companies.

#### **Speakers:**

**Hashim Shawa**, *Board Chair and General Manager, Bank of Palestine.*

**Hassan Qasem**, *Chairman, Palestinian IT Association,*

**Ghassan Anabtawi**, *CEO/General Manager, REACH/Paltel Group*

**Dr. Jad Daniel**, *Partner & Vice President, Industrial Sector – Global Business Services IBM*

**Eng. Amal Masri-Al Moghrabi**, *Chair, Business Women Forum, Palestine*

**Mr. Sami Abu-Dayyeh**, *Chair, Holy Land Incoming Tour Operators Association, (HLITOA) and President/CEO of Netours Co.*

1:00 – 2:00 pm      **Lunch**

2:00 – 3:30 pm      **Breakout Workshop:            ICT & Business**

*(Including hospitality, investment, banking, tourism, etc.)*

Interactive and facilitated session between professionals from Palestine and professionals and potential investors from the United States and abroad. This session will be an exchange of expertise, experience, and best practices. Other highlights will include benefits of working with Palestinian companies and education on conducting business in Palestine. Participants will learn about niche product services in the U.S., expectations of American consumers and businesses, and current success stories. Participants will have the opportunity during these sessions to sign up for “Saturday One-on-One” meetings for more specific action-oriented discussions with a targeted business/organization or individual in going forward.

3:30-4:00 pm      **Forward Moving Actions - Where Do We Go from Here?**

6:00 pm

**Awards Banquet**

**Washington Marriott**

**1221 22 Street, NW**

**Washington, DC 20037**





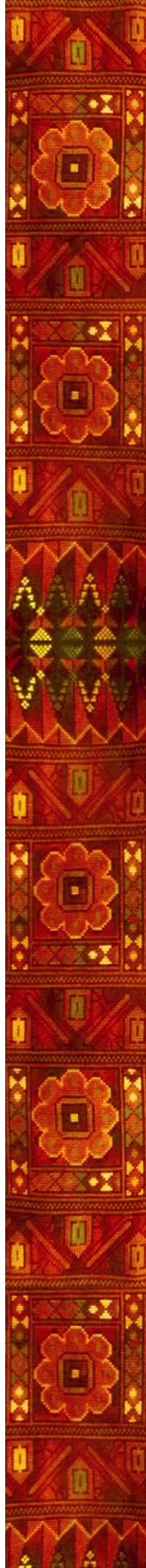
# HOLY LAND CHRISTIAN ECUMENICAL FOUNDATION



## 14<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: 3RD BUSINESS, INVESTMENTS & ICT CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012

- 8:00 - 8:30 am      **Registration, Refreshments, Exhibits Open**
- 8:30 - 8:50 am      **Opening Prayer**  
**Introduction to the Conference**  
**Dr. Saliba Sarsar**, *Secretary, HCEF Board of Directors and Associate Vice President for Global Initiatives, Monmouth University*  
**Dr. Hugh Dempsey, K.M. Ob., KHS**
- 8:50 - 9:00 am      **Welcoming Remarks:**  
**Sir Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS, HCEF President/CEO**
- 9:00 - 10:00 am      **The Role of Religious Institutions and Leaders in Peace-Building**  
The essence of religion is to worship God and to respect life and the dignity of all human beings, regardless of religion, nationality and gender. The role of religious institutions is to put those values into practice. This session will address how religious institutions are playing a vital role in peace-building, including education, housing, social services, and reconciliation efforts.
- Moderator:**      **Rev. William Turner, Ph. D. KCHS, Pastor, St. Mary, Chelsea, MI, HCEF Board of Directors**
- Speakers:**      **Rev. Canon Dr. Trond Bakkevig** *Convener, Council of Religious Institutions of the Holy Land and Dean of Vestre Aker, Oslo - Church of Norway*  
**Bishop Richard Graham**, *Lutheran Bishop of Washington*  
**Mr. Mark Mohseni**, *Radio Show Host, Building Bridges, San Francisco*
- 10:00 - 10:30 am      **Christians of the Holy Land: Who Are They?**
- Speaker:**      **Jeff Abood, KHS, Education Master, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, Cleveland Section**
- 10:30 - 11:00 am      **Break**
- 11:00 - 12:00 noon      **Palestinian Geopolitical Status under the Israeli Occupation**  
Jewish settlements and the Israeli wall on Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, have complicated Palestinian life and have been serious impediments to peace between Palestinians and Israelis. This session will focus on their impact on Palestinian daily life and the larger issue of peace.
- Moderator/Speaker: Dr. Saliba Sarsar, Secretary, HCEF Board of Directors and Associate Vice President for Global Initiatives, Monmouth University**
- Speakers:**      **Dr. Jad Isaac**, *General Director, Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem (ARIJ)*  
**Dr. Warren Clark**, *Executive Director, Churches of Middle East Peace*





- 12:00 - 1:00 pm      **Lunch**
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm      **Special Presentation & Visual Presentation: HCEF DVD**
- 2:00 - 2:45 pm      **Noa Baum, *Jewish Storyteller, Promoting Peace through the Art and Practice of Storytelling***
- 2:45 – 4:30 pm      **CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS**

**1. Investment Environment and Business Opportunities in Palestine**

*(3rd Business, Investment & ICT Conference Workshop)*

People are at the heart of society. Investing in people pumps positive energy into society and brings hope to the future. This workshop will examine business opportunities, especially investments, job creation, and international development as they relate to Palestine. It will review actions underway in Palestine, which advance a vision of investment, leadership for investment, and resources for investment in people. These build on the strong foundations of financial management and transparency that are necessary for promoting economic well-being and prosperity.

**2. Religious Tourism**

By taking a pilgrimage, people of faith fulfill important spiritual and personal needs. The Holy Land is one of the most sacred spots on earth, which has deep meaning for the followers of the three monotheistic faiths of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. This panel will explain the importance of promoting pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

**Moderator:** **Rateb Rabie, KCHS, HCEF President/CEO**

**Speakers:** **Mary Jane Fox, Pilgrim Center of Hope, Founder and Co-Director**  
**Sami Abu Dayyeh, CEO, Near East Tourist Agency (NET), Owner, Ambassador and Ritz Hotels, Jerusalem**  
**Sami Khoury, Tourism Consultant, Visit Palestine**

- 4:30 – 5:45 pm      **U.S. Presidential Election Results: Implications and Prospects for Peace in the Middle East**

Historically, U.S. presidents have played key roles in Middle East affairs. The presidential election results on November 6 will be significant as they will indicate possible shifts in U.S. policies. This panel will explore the implications and prospects for peace in the Middle East given a Barack Obama 2<sup>nd</sup> term or a Mitt Romney 1<sup>st</sup> term.

**Moderator:** **Mr. Saba L. Shami, Principal, Washington Works, LLC**

**Speakers:** **Dr. Asad Abdul Rahman, Member, Executive Committee of the PLO, Chairman, Palestinian International Institute**  
**Dr. James Zogby, President, Arab American Institute (AAI)**

- 5:45 – 6:00 pm      **Closing Remarks and Prayer**