

# WORLD UNION OF ARAB BANKERS HOLDS ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FORUM IN COLLABORATION WITH MENA FCCG



The Annual Compliance Forum titled; “Strengthening AML/CFT, Sanctions, Digital Risk, Governance, Privacy, and CRS Frameworks in Arab Banking” aimed to support Arab banks in strengthening their internal structures, improving cross-border cooperation, and cultivating a compliance culture that is mature, modern, and ready for the demands of the years ahead.

The Forum, held on 9 – 10th February, 2026 in Amman, Jordan, examined key issues shaping modern compliance functions including the need for reinforcing AML/CFT and sanctions controls, assessing the risks introduced by fintech, regtech, and the digital economy, embedding governance and ESG principles

within daily operations, establishing sound privacy and data-protection frameworks, and ensuring compliance with global reporting expectations such as the Common Reporting Standard (CRS). The audience included regulators including from the Central Bank of Jordan and Central Bank of Egypt. Each topic was led by subject

matter experts active in the field carrying the responsibility of safeguarding their institutions thereby bringing clarity on best practice approach for managing the evolving regulatory obligations that banks confront every day.

The forum commenced with opening remarks from Dr.



*Dr. Wissam H. Fattouh, Secretary General, WUAB & Union of Arab Banks with MENA FCCG members*

Wissam H. Fattouh, Secretary General, WUAB & Union of Arab Banks, & Chairman MENA FCCG followed by Mr. Michael Matossian, Global Head of Group Regulatory Compliance, Arab Bank and Founder and Deputy Chair MENA FCCG. In his opening remarks, Mr.

Matossian focused on managing uncertainty and increased organizational tractions towards leveraging AI, achieving sustained competitive business growth, and strengthening organizational capabilities, particularly around technology, digital transformation, and risk.

In essence, this new paradigm in business transformation requires faster and smarter decisions, enhanced trust and governance, as well as investment in technology and people.



*Mr. Michael Matossian, Global Head of Group Regulatory Compliance, Arab Bank and Founder and Deputy Chair MENA FCCG.*



**Key speakers included:**

- **Mr. Arafat Fayoumi**, Executive Director of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Supervision Department, Central Bank of Jordan who delivered a presentation titled “Strengthening AML/CFT Frameworks in a Rapidly Evolving Risk Environment”. The session was moderated by Mr. Chahdan Jebeyli, Esq. Senior International Adviser Legal and Compliance, Union of Arab Banks, & Lebanese Banks Association.
- **Mr. Tony Chebli**, CEO, ANAT SECURITY, Paris - France who delivered a presentation titled “Cybersecurity in Financial Services: Safeguarding Our Digital Future”.
- **Mr. Mamoon Assaf**, Director of Intelligence & Financial Analysis Directorate, the Anti Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing Unit, Jordan and Mr. Aladdin Dandis, Security Consultant; who led a panel discussion titled “Governance as the Cornerstone of an Effective Compliance Culture”.
- Four subject matter experts from Arab Bank delivered presentations in the areas of; Role of Technology and AI in Modern Compliance Functions, Privacy and Data Protection in Modern Banking, CRS & Global Transparency Obligations, and Sanctions Compliance and Cross-Border Banking Challenges.



## About MENA FCCG:

MENA FCCG is an industry-driven, voluntary initiative, currently consisting of 12 leading financial institutions from eight MENA countries. It seeks to bring collective action in the fight against money laundering and terrorist finance in the region. Both the Union of Arab Banks (UAB) and London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) are Strategic Partners. The Group has a strategic alliance with GCFFC, Wolfsberg Group, Crime Stoppers International, GASA, RUSI, K2 Integrity, ACAMS, and United Nations. The Group was officially launched in September 2016 with the inaugural meeting in Bahrain. Visit [www.menafccg.com](http://www.menafccg.com).

In November 2021, the Group officially launched a Europe Chapter at an inaugural meeting in London. The Chapter aims to extend MENA FCCG's objectives to Europe by bringing together compliance professionals of Arab banks operating in Europe to enhance financial crime literacy and support implementation of best practices. The Arab Bankers Association serves as a strategic partner with Themis Services as a Strategic Alliance.

### MEMBER BANKS



### STRATEGIC PARTNERS

### EU CHAPTER STRATEGIC PARTNERS



### ALLIANCES

