

# MIDDLE EAST NEWSLETTER JULY 2022

**GREETINGS FROM OUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR, GAENOR JONES.**  
It's a pleasure to be communicating with you once again, keeping you up to date with our efforts and endeavours to boost professional standards across the Middle East region.

Making the examination study and sitting process convenient and accessible remains our key objective, and so increasing our examination centres across the region, including those in Jordan, KSA and Oman amongst others, has contributed to that commitment. We are also mindful that studying for a CII qualification must be highly compatible with the professional demands of the day job - online learning, training and remote invigilation continues to make the process achievable, across the range of units and qualifications available, many of them tailored to suit the region, and also available in Arabic.

I hope you enjoy catching up with our news and updates, as well as our testimonials from professionals who are benefiting from their membership and qualifications attainment. It's our aim that you feel inspired and empowered to achieve, whether this is as member wanting to accelerate your career, or as a corporate, partner or stakeholder, wishing to contribute to the sector's standing and professionalism.

*Yours sincerely*

**Gaenor Jones**  
Regional Director  
Middle East



The past six months have seen us working hard to further strengthen our relationships with some of the region's leading training organisations, regulators and corporates. Our mission remains a collective endeavour and we value the support and expertise of our colleagues and associates. You can read more about our progress in these pages.

Putting our members and stakeholders opinions and feedback at the heart of all that we do remains a firm priority, and we were grateful for the response to our global consultation exercise, Shaping the Future Together. Over the next few months we will be introducing fresh initiatives and ways of working that will address the valid issues brought to our attention, and I look forward to updating you.

## OTHER ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE

Welcoming Two New Goodwill Ambassadors

Boosting Career Development with FutureMe

CII in the News

Positive Words from Qualification Holders

Regional Director a Judge for Middle East Insurance Awards

Partnering for Progress

Middle East Office has Prominent Role for Central & S.Asia

Professional Map Lays Framework for Competence Standards

International Qualifications Tailored to You

New Executive MBA in Islamic Insurance & Risk Management Launched

Data Science & Analytics Course Open for Registrations

Beware Security Protocols on Employers' PCs

We Welcome a New CEO

New Exam Centres Now Open Across the Middle East



Chartered  
Insurance  
Institute  
Standards. Professionalism. Trust.

July issue 2022

## WELCOMING TWO NEW GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

We are delighted to introduce two new Goodwill Ambassadors for Turkey and Qatar, Kerem Erberk and Khaldoun Wakil Martinez. Kerem is a graduate of Middle East Technical University, boasting two decades of experience in the insurance sector. He holds a diploma from the Chartered Insurance Institute and is Vice Chairman of the Non-Life Strategy Committee of Insurance of Turkey.

Khaldoun is Vice President of Marsh in Qatar, his career seeing him hold a wealth of senior positions in both Syria and Qatar. He has an Advanced Diploma from



Kerem Erberk

the Chartered Insurance Institute, with his former qualifications including an MBA from Durham University and a Bachelor of Science from Latakia University in Syria.

Karem and Khaldoun join our five other CII Middle East Goodwill



Khaldoun Wakil Martinez

Ambassadors who represent KSA, Bahrain, UAE and Oman, communicating with local businesses, advocating the importance of professional qualifications and sharing best practice to influence sector frameworks.

# BOOSTING CAREER DEVELOPMENT WITH FUTUREME.

Introducing FutureMe, a career development platform for insurance and financial planning professionals, and available in the Middle East.

The platform offers interactive tools and career skills e-learning, including more than 5,000 videos, 800 e-learning bites, 14 personality assessments and 300 Soft Business & IT skills courses.



It also includes:

- **Career Pulse:** self-assessment tool enables professionals to see how employable they are and identify the areas they need to develop.
- **CV Builder:** assesses a member's CV against more than 50 checks and gives instant personalised feedback.
- **Interview 360:** an artificial intelligence interview programme, which simulates an interview environment and delivers personalised feedback.

The platform can be accessed by all CII members, at no additional cost, via the learning section of the MyCII portal and is suitable for Middle East professionals at every stage of their career.

## CII IN THE NEWS

We continue to have our opinions sought after by leading media outlets in the region.

Key highlights include an editorial piece by Gaenor Jones in Premium magazine: PremiumA Clear Advantage from (premium-me.com) where she spoke about the value of attaining CII qualifications and why the time has never been better to boost your career goals.

Our introduction to the Turkish market was also boosted by a four-page spread in Sigorta Dunyasi, where the CII was able to convey the wealth of benefits that come with CII membership.



## POSITIVE WORDS FROM QUALIFICATION HOLDERS



**Name:** Osman Kenanoglu  
**Company:** Anadolu Sigorta  
**Designation:** Senior Underwriter  
**Qualification:** Cert CII

Gaining a deeper knowledge of the insurance sector and obtaining a prestigious designation from a credible professional body were the main reasons behind Osman attaining a Cert CII qualification. Osman is a Senior Underwriter at Turkish insurance company, Anadolu Sigorta.

He also appreciated the boost to his self confidence that achieving a CII qualification has given him.

He explains, *"I now have the ability to approach issues with more technical knowledge. I believe that these will afford me recognition amongst peers and seniors, making it easier to reach my career goals"*

He continues, *"studying for exams and keeping track of daily tasks was challenging at first. However, as I progressed, applying what I learned while studying for the exam made the study very motivating."*



**Name:** Kiren Kumar  
**Company:** AON Qatar  
**Designation:** Assistant Director  
**Qualification:** Advanced Diploma

This is one of the main career goals of Kiren Kumar, Assistant Director of AON Qatar. Kiren services corporate clients - assisting them in identifying and implementing the best risk mitigating measures and supporting them throughout the risk management process.

He explains, *"Advanced diploma is a professional and globally recognised qualification. CII studies enhanced my subject knowledge with better understanding of insurance practice, both technical subject matter and overall application skills. I have been able to provide better advice and quality service to our clients, which results in 100% retention of clients for my company."*

He is quick to praise our role in the study process, explaining, *"The CII Institute had a vital role in supporting (via calls & emails) wherever I requested them for their assistance. I cleared my MCQ & theory papers in the traditional manner - at an exam centre. Everything was well arranged and the whole process up to receiving the result went well. CII qualifications will certainly give you an enhanced perception and knowledge in your industry. The study materials provided by the institute can always be used as reference point in your career, which is an added bonus."*



# REGIONAL DIRECTOR A JUDGE FOR MIDDLE EAST INSURANCE AWARDS

Regional Director, Gaenor Jones has been invited onto the judging panel of the Middle East Insurance Awards, which take place in November this year. She comments,

*“This is a highly esteemed annual event which is attended by so many prestigious companies in the sector. I am really excited about playing an instrumental role in recognizing and praising those individuals and entities that have made outstanding contributions, and who champion standards of excellence and best practice.”*



## PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Partnering with key organisations, whose employees and students will benefit from CII qualifications remains at the heart of our activity in the Middle East.

**This year, we are pleased to announce the following:**



**Certificate exams across the Gulf region**



**Certificate exams in the UAE**



**Certificate exams in the UAE**



**Corporate Partners, Membership and exams**



**Corporate Partners, Membership and exams**



**Exams**

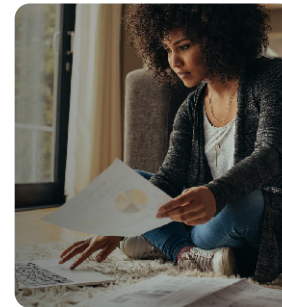


## MIDDLE EAST OFFICE HAS PROMINENT ROLE FOR CENTRAL & SOUTH ASIA

**The Middle East office has expanded its role as a hub for international business, and will now deliver products, services, training and guidance for the Central and South Asia regions as part of a global restructure.**

We are looking forward to providing support and assistance to those individuals and companies who previously dealt with our India office. We also interested to hear from corporates and stakeholders about their professional career aspirations, and how we can support them.

## PROFESSIONAL MAP LAYS FRAMEWORK FOR COMPETENCE STANDARDS



Last July the CII launched Professional Map, a market-led framework that lays out the standards of professional competence for insurance and personal finance.

Its purpose is to develop more member professionals to serve the public.

This Summer we will officially launch the initiative, and we look forward to bringing you a progress update in our next newsletter.

## INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS TAILORED TO YOU

Providing nuanced and tailored qualifications that enable our middle east students to build their knowledge and professionalism continues to be a key objective for the CII. Many of our qualifications are available in the Arabic language.

We also offer training in English and Arabic, and employ bi-lingual tutors. Exam preparation, technical training as well as soft skills are all part of the CII offering. **To find out more:**

[CLICK HERE](#)

## NEW EXECUTIVE MBA IN ISLAMIC INSURANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT LAUNCHED

We are pleased to announce that along with the Islamic Insurance Association of London, we have worked with the Centre for Islamic Finance at the University of Bolton to launch a new Executive MBA in Islamic Insurance and Risk Management, which will be delivered by distance learning with a blend of live online

sessions, tutor support and independent study.

**To find out more:**

[CLICK HERE](#)



## DATA SCIENCE & ANALYTICS COURSE OPEN FOR REGISTRATIONS



Due to popular demand, the recently launched Data Science & Analytics course, created in collaboration with the University of Southampton, is available for registration. During its first edition, more than 50% of those registered were from the UAE, and the course is heavily supported and promoted by the DIFCI Insurance Association. **To find out more:**

## BEWARE SECURITY PROTOCOLS ON EMPLOYERS' PCS

A note to all of our exam takers - you are strongly advised not to use a computer provided by your employer as these typically include security protocols that conflict with remote invigilation software.

You should also avoid using a corporate Wi-Fi or any other internet connection that may include firewalls that you can not personally control.



## WE WELCOME A NEW CEO

**The CII is delighted to welcome Alan Vallance as our new Chief Executive Officer.**

Currently CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Alan will take forward the CII Board's refreshed strategy and next five-year plan, which will be informed by the Shaping the future together consultation feedback.

Dr Helen Phillips, CII Chair, said: *"Alan's experience as CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects, a Royal Charter membership body, make him the ideal choice to lead the Chartered Insurance Institute.*

*He is well recognised as an expert in leading and transforming professional bodies into becoming 21st century digital organisations with greater focus on meeting members' needs."*



## NEW EXAM CENTRES NOW OPEN ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST

We are pleased to announce the opening of new exam centres across the Middle East, increasing accessibility, thus making the qualification journey even more feasible for many more professionals.



**EGYPT | ISRAEL | BAHRAIN | JORDAN | OMAN | TURKEY  
QATAR | KUWAIT | AZERBAIJAN**

Being a CII member brings a wealth of benefits including access to learning development content and special events and activities, access to promotions and special offers, and the use of your CII designation after your name. For further information, please visit: [www.cii.org/me](http://www.cii.org/me)