

Association of Moroccan Professionals in America



2010 Professional Networking

Doing Business in Morocco

Washington D.C - December 4th, 2010

Dear AMPA Members,

Under the theme "**Doing Business in Morocco**", AMPA is delighted to invite you to our 2010 Professional Networking this year in **Washington D.C on Saturday December 4th, 2010**. This year's event features distinguished speakers with a high level of expertise in the economy and finance fields and will take place in the prestigious **George Washington University** (Marvin Center, 800 21st Street NW, Suite 307, Washington DC 20052).

AMPA's ever growing membership base and friends will benefit from the panelists extensive professional experiences addressing the following topics:

1. "A Pro-Growth Economic Environment" by **Abdelali Jbili**.
2. "Exporting to Morocco: Gateway to the Middle East and North Africa" by **Leila Aridi Afas**.
3. "Economic Relationship between US and Morocco: The Role the US Chamber of Commerce" by **Khush Choksy**.
4. "What it takes to build a successful Moroccan-American business" by **Khalil Jai Hokimi**.

Tickets are free of charge to AMPA members and \$50 for non members. Seats are limited; we encourage you to register promptly by following the link below:

<https://web.memberclicks.com/mc/quickForm/viewForm.do?orgId=ampa&formId=91694>

For more information: events@amp-usa.org

Website: www.amp-usa.org

Agenda

Washington D.C - December 4th, 2010

09:00 – 09:50 Registration / Breakfast

09:50 – 10:00 Opening session: Welcome and remarks
Karim Sijlamassi - AMPA President

10:00 – 10:30 “A Pro-Growth Economic Environment ”
by **Abdelali Jbili**.

10:30 – 11:00 “Economic Relationship between US and Morocco - The Role the US Chamber of Commerce”
Khush Choksy - Senior Director at US Chamber of Commerce.

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break - Networking.

11:30 – 12:00 “What it takes to build a successful Moroccan-American business”
Khalil Jai Hokimi - Director at SCORE.

12:00 – 12:30 “Exporting to Morocco: Gateway to the Middle East and North Africa”
Leila Aridi Afas - Manager at Grant Thornton.

12:30 – 12:45 Closing Remarks.

Speakers' bios

Leila Aridi Afas

Leila Aridi Afas is a Manager within Grant Thornton's Global Public Sector practice. She works in the international practice area where she supports government clients around the world in their efforts to improve efficiency, increase transparency, foster economic development and promote trade and investment. Her consulting assignments range from supporting the privatization of state owned enterprises to developing a public pension scheme.

Ms. Afas joined Grant Thornton after three years as a Country Manager at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency. In this role she managed a multimillion dollar portfolio of U.S. foreign assistance funds for investment analysis of large-scale infrastructure projects and trade capacity building activities in the emerging economies of the Middle East and North Africa. In particular, she managed several feasibility studies and technical assistance programs in Morocco and participated in the promotion of the newly implemented U.S. Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

Ms. Afas currently serves as a Commissioner on the Montgomery County Commission for Women, where she was appointed to two consecutive three-year terms by the County Executive. She earned her Master's in International Economic Policy from Columbia University and her B.A. in Political Science and English from James Madison University.

Khush Choksy

Khush Choksy is senior director for Middle East at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, where he is responsible for developing, and implementing policies and programs that promote U.S. trade and investment with the Middle East and North Africa. Choksy works closely with Chamber member companies, and business and government leaders in advancing and broadening commercial and economic relationships that exist between the United States and the countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

In addition, he serves as the executive director of the U.S.-Egypt Business Council. Before joining the Chamber, Choksy was a director at Chemonics International for 12 years, leading teams involved with developing investment, trade, and public policy ties between the U.S. and Middle East. He lived and worked in Jordan for seven years, managing relations with private and government sector leaders at a critical time in U.S.-Middle East economic and political relationships on behalf of several USAID projects. He has also lived and worked extensively in India managing U.S. Government and World Bank-funded programs that helped liberalize the financial sector and enable U.S. investment.

His thought leadership includes presentations at several international forums on business reform and U.S. trade and financial sector investment in the Middle East. He received his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in strategic management and his B.A. magna cum laude from Hamilton College.

Speakers' bios

Khalil Jai Hokimi

Khalil Jai Hokimi is a co-founder and Chairman of the Board of AMPA. He is the CEO of the Young Arab Business Trust and a Director with SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business". At SCORE, Khalil is responsible for developing, implementing and managing training programs for 13,000 business coaches and the millions of US entrepreneurs and small business owners they advise.

Prior to joining SCORE, Khalil has held multiple entrepreneurial and corporate roles with companies like zippyjobs.com, the Student Employment Council and Blackboard. He has also acted as a management and marketing consultant for corporations such as Starbucks, McDonald's, Domino's Pizza, CVS Pharmacy, The George Washington University, Princeton University and New York University.

Khalil holds a BTS in International Commerce from ISEG Toulouse, a BS in Business Management and Marketing from Fairleigh Dickinson University and an MBA in Global Commerce from the Instituto de Empresa. He lives with his wife and two children in Bethesda, MD.

Abdelali Jbili

Mr. Jbili holds a doctorate degree in economics from the University Mohamed V, Morocco; He has had a long career at the IMF, and has led IMF missions to several countries in the Middle East, including the GCC countries, Tunisia, Syria, and Iran. He also served as division chief for North African countries and worked on several Sub-Saharan African countries. He is currently Advisor to the Executive Director for Morocco and other countries at the IMF Executive Board.

Mr. Jbili has contributed articles and publications on financial sector issues and exchange rate regimes in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and on the GCC countries. Prior to joining the IMF, Mr. Jbili worked in the Ministry of Finance of Morocco, at the General Inspection of Finance and the Treasury Directorate.