

# **Agenda:**

## **Annual Investment Meeting**

March 24-26, 2020 | Dubai, UAE

**Investing for the Future: Shaping the Global Investment Strategies Explore investment opportunities in more than 140 countries**

## **Day 1**

8:00am-9:45am **Registration**

10:00am-11:00am **Global Leaders Debate – Investing for the Future: Shaping Global Investment Strategies**

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) flows slid by 13% in 2018, to US\$1.3 trillion from \$1.5 trillion the previous year – the third consecutive annual decline, according to UNCTAD’s World Investment Report 2019.

We are witnessing a global slowdown of the economy, with many countries being more conservative and restricting the inflow or the outflow of FDI. The Geopolitics is hampering the growth of FDI. Globalisation is running out of steam, and a new term is being coined called “Slowbalisation”.

The Global Leaders Debate will discuss the future investment trend and how is it impacting FDI, SMEs, Startups and Future Cities.

The high-level panel will convene heads of state, academia, heads of international institutions, leaders from multinational organisations, leading unicorns and investors from developing and mature economies.

11:00am-12:00pm **Interview with Industry Leader**

12:00pm-12:30pm **Opening Ceremony**

12:30pm-14:00pm **Lunch & Networking Break**

14:00pm-15:00pm **FDI Pillar Session 1 - Disruptive Investments: Investing in Industry 4.0**

AI adoption will account for 45% of the world economy’s total gains by 2030. AI & Robotics are revolutionising industries, creating new markets and disrupting the existing once. In this phase of disruption, what do IPAs need to do? How to manage these changes and how to make the local environment conducive to change? What promotion strategies need to be utilised to attract the right investors.

15:00pm-16:00pm **FDI Pillar Session 2 - Cryptocurrencies and its Resurgence**

ICOs are part of a booming global fund-raising phenomenon. Cryptocurrencies offer the ability to make international payments without an intermediary bank at a lower cost, with transaction traceability that could deter corruption while ensuring personal anonymity, and with settlement finality. ICOs are disrupting the tradition as they can be used by foreigners to raise funds in a different country to fund local projects. This factor enhances globalisation and enables individuals to make a footprint in lucrative markets.

With all the ups of Digital Currencies come the regulatory challenges, and in this session, we will explore the ups and the challenges.

## **Day 2**

### **10:30am-11:00am FDI Pillar Session 3 - Protectionism & Trade Wars: The Ripple effect**

An open economy is the best policy for attracting investments. However, we have seen a rise of protectionism in various countries, which is hampering global FDI. UNCTAD noted that the Global FDI had seen a 13% decline in the year 2018.

Many countries are adopting more closed policies to focus on their regional growth. Investors are applying a more localisation strategy by developing new supply chains, products, and workforces for specific local contexts. In this session we will administer the impact of protectionism & trade wars on FDI and what can we expect moving forward, is globalisation on a decline or are we going to see more open and welcoming economies in the coming years.

### **11:00am-12:00pm FDI Pillar Session 4 - Women in Investment**

This session will bring together the leading women in the field of investment to talk about the industries inclusiveness and diversity. Discussing the growth prospects and the culture of investment.

### **13:00pm-14:30pm Lunch & Networking Break**

### **15:30pm-16:30pm FDI Pillar Session 5 - Special Economic Zone (SEZs) and their Effectiveness in Attracting FDI**

SEZs can make essential contributions to the growth and development of an economy. They can help attract foreign investments, create jobs and boost exports – both directly and indirectly where they succeed in building linkages with the broader economy. Zones can also support global value chain (GVC) participation, industrial upgrading and diversification. Given the rise of digitalisation, the SEZs need to adapt and innovate to attract further investments, making the process of setting up a business simpler and faster. There are nearly 5,400 zones across 147 economies today, up from about 4,000 five years ago, and more than 500 new SEZs are in the pipeline. In this session, the panellist will discuss the advantages of having SEZs and how SEZs are innovating to attract new business.

### **16:30pm-17:00pm FDI Pillar Session 6 - Greenfield Investments or M&A: What's your take?**

The long-term slide of greenfield investment in manufacturing halted in 2018, with the value of announced projects up 35 per cent from the low value in 2017. The global M&A market remained strong in 2018 with announced transaction volumes reaching \$4.1 trillion, the third highest year ever for M&A volumes. Greenfield investment and M&A are showing good signs of growth over the previous years of slumps, what is the future outlook of these investments and what can policymakers do to attract MNCs to invest in their countries.

### **Day 3**

#### **10:00am-11:00am FDI Pillar Session 7 - Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Smart Sustainable Investments**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are being formulated by the international community will have very significant implications for investment needs. The private sector investment in SDGs can help structure efforts to mobilise funds, to channel them to SDG sectors, and to maximise impacts and mitigate drawbacks. This session will discover the positive impacts of investment in SDG segments, the challenges faced in LDCs and the opportunities which exist.

#### **14:30pm-15:30pm FDI Pillar Session 8 - Digitalization: Changing the Game for Investment**

Blockchain impact on the stock market

How is FinTech impacting capital markets

Cyber Security: What measures need to be taken to prevent cyber-crimes Building the trust of smart city citizens