

Newsletter November 2021

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VOICES



Interview with Yernur Rysmagambetov, CEO of Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC)

Yernur Rysmagambetov shared an important message during the WAIFC Annual General Meeting in Dubai.

Which is your balance about Astana International Financial Centre's participation in WAIFC's Annual General Meeting?

We are very happy to be a part of WAIFC. It has been since the beginning we have been supporting the initiative.

For this specific Annual General Meeting, we think it was very positive the fact we could meet the members face-to-face again. As the majority of the world, at AIFC, our work even stopped during the Pandemic times. But then we rapidly adapted to remote-work format and continued mostly online and now we are excited to have this face-to-face Event.

For **AIFC**, it was very important to meet with all the different Financial Centers in the post-pandemic era. All the WAIFC members have their own challenges in home countries, and this kind of Meeting is very important to share experiences, ideas, solutions, new trends, and in general, challenges and opportunities about the ongoing future.

We had a two-day session where we discussed mostly about the past challenges. Then we also discussed about the future of finance, and those discussions were very relevant to fine-tune our strategy with other leading Financial Centers around the globe.

We also think that AIFC capitalized on the AGM opportunity to explain how AIFC adds value to the community of Kazakhstan. Like happened this year, in 2022 we're going to have a Forum as an appointment to continue our brainstorming sessions around the future of finance and innovative products and services that will help our markets in post-crisis recovery.

OPINIONS



Opinion of Hiroshi Nakaso, Chairman of FinCity Tokyo on Global Financial City: Tokyo Vision 2.0

"The Tokyo Metropolitan Government published its strategy to set three central pillars: (1) promotion of green finance through the Tokyo Green Finance Initiative (TGFI), (2) digitalization of financial services utilizing Fintech companies, and (3) accumulation of a wide range of financial players."

The author unveils how Tokyo is realizing a sustainable recovery to become a global-leading Financial City in the world. Also explains how Tokyo is rapidly adopting new strategies to stay ahead of the curve in the global financial momentum.

► [Read the full article on our website](#)



Opinion of Nick Barigye, CEO of Rwanda Finance on Making green financing a reality

Enjoy a reprint of an Op-Ed, published on 11 November 2021 - with the courtesy of [Rwanda Finance](#) and [African Business](#).

"Rwanda is positioning itself as a hub for green investment as it trials a new instrument to credit check SMEs' green credentials."

The author ponders how **COP26** outcomes could be pursued utilizing effective developments.

► [Read the full article on our website](#)

NEWS



The 2021 WAIFC Annual General Meeting took place in Dubai

Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) hosted WAIFC's Annual General Meeting 2021 in Dubai. The event took place from October 25 to October 27 and reunited more than 30 member representatives from worldwide financial centers.

The meeting offered a distinguished agenda where

new members were appointed.

► [Read more about the AGM](#)



Roundtable of EU Financial Centers and Federations as a regional chapter of the WAIFC established

Eleven organizations representing EU financial centers and federations from eight EU member countries recently signed a **Memorandum of Understanding**.

The **EU Roundtable** will promote the creation of a common EU financial market as well as strengthen cooperation and exchange regarding financial services between EU member states.

► [Read more about the Round Table](#)



WAIFC welcomes the Italian Banking, Insurance, and Finance Federation (FeBAF) as its 21st member

The **WAIFC General Meeting** unanimously approved the membership of the **Italian Banking, Insurance, and Finance Federation (FeBAF)**. **FeBAF** was an observer before, and all **WAIFC members** are very much looking forward to continuing working closely together with FeBAF and exchanging best practices.

WAIFC's Managing Director **Jochen Biedermann** handed over the membership certificate to **Franco Delneri** from FeBAF.

► [Read more](#)



Increased collaboration among international financial centers continue to strengthen economic recovery - Op-Ed of QFC and WAIFC

Yousuf Al-Jaida, CEO of **Qatar Financial Centre (QFC)**, and **Jochen Biedermann**, Managing Director of the **World Alliance of International Financial Centers (WAIFC)**, shared insights on the contribution of the international financial centers in supporting and reigniting economic recovery and how collaboration among the different financial centers play a role in making this possible.

► [Read more](#)



WAIFC and Stuttgart Financial held a joint webinar on accelerating Sustainable Finance

By invitation of **Stuttgart Financial**, WAIFC leaders met at the **Expo Dubai** to discuss the role of financial centers in managing the transition.

Please find further details on the Stuttgart Financial website.

► [You can watch the recording here](#)



Our WAIFC member DIFC and our observer Jersey Finance have just signed a new agreement

Jersey Finance agrees on a new framework for cooperation with **Dubai International Financial Centre**.

This new agreement paves the way for closer collaboration over the coming years.

► [Read more](#)

EVENTS



Fintech Abu Dhabi 2021

ADGM is pleased to announce the return of the annual Fintech Abu Dhabi festival.

Returning for its 5th edition, this year's Fintech Abu Dhabi will be held in an exciting new hybrid format.

Monday, November 22;
9:00-18:00 GST.
Hybrid event at Al Maryah Island, Abu Dhabi.

► [More information](#)



Tokyo— Opportunities for Asia's Green Finance

FinCity.Tokyo announces a **Live Webinar** that will delve into Japan's strong green finance momentum and discuss how Tokyo can further boost its position as a green finance hub in Asia and globally.

Monday, November 22,
from 18:00 to 19:00 JST.
Digital Event.

► [More information](#)



Asian Financial Forum 2022

AFF is Asia's premier platform for global leaders in government, finance, and business to exchange insights, intelligence, and explore business and investment opportunities.

Monday, January 10, and
Tuesday, January 11 from
9:00 to 18:00 HKT. Hong
Kong Convention and
Exhibition Center.

► [More Information](#)

DOWNLOADS

Publications

- The Impact of COVID-19 on the Future of Banking Regulation
- WAIFC Report on Regulatory Cooperation
- SMEs Finance: How regulators can ensure recovery from COVID-19
- Supporting SMEs with Sustained Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery
- Innovation and FinTechs in a Post-Pandemic World
- Sustainable Finance in a Post-Pandemic World
- How global financial centers can help combat the COVID-19 pandemic
- The role of financial centers in driving economic growth

Institutional

- WAIFC Presentation
- WAIFC Presentation in Chinese
- Joint declaration on the current pandemic

The [World Alliance of International Financial Centers \(WAIFC\)](#) is a non-profit association registered in Belgium, representing 21 leading international financial centers of four continents. Its members are government agencies, associations, and similar institutions developing and promoting their financial centers. WAIFC facilitates cooperation between financial centers, exchanging best practices, and communication with the general public.

Board of Directors:

Jennifer Reynolds (Chair), Frederic de Laminne (Treasurer), Zahra Abdel Rassoul, Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida, Abdullah Al Rabiei, Arif Amiri, Keiichi Aritomo, Nick Barigye, Manal Bernoussi, Arnaud de Bresson, Miles Celic, Dr. King Au, Kairat Kelimbetov, Jong Hwa Kim, Nicolas Mackel, Ken Poonoosamy, Philippe Richard, Hubertus Văth, Alexander Voloshin.

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Dr. Jochen Biedermann



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