



Press Announcement

Doha, May 14, 2010

Birzeit Consulting ME entered into an agreement with Allied Advsiors LLC whereby Allied Advsiors LLC will act as a representative of Birzeit Consulting ME in the State of Qatar in all its business and operational aspects. Further, Birzeit Consulting ME will represent Allied Advsiors LLC in Palestine, Jordan and the United Kingdom. Mr. Mohammed J. Masoud, the managing partner of Birzeit Consulting ME, and Mr. Qasim M. Qasim, CEO and Managing Partner of Allied Advsiors LLC, are determined to provide our markets in the Middle East and Europe with the cutting edge service offerings.

Allied Advisors LLC (AA) is a Sharia Compliance advisory and consulting company incorporated under the Qatar Financial Center Regulatory Authority (QFCRA)- License No. 00083. It was licensed in June 2008, where its primary objective is to provide professional consulting services on Sharia related aspects and providing Sharia advisory services to financial institutions promoting and developing Sharia compliant products.

Allied Advisors LLC seeks to provide advisory services to financial institutions promoting Sharia compliant products, advises on Sharia aspects of newly structured products, provides technical implementation support with newly established Sharia compliant institutions and business units, acts as Sharia counsel for financial institutions wishing to outsource this function, provides Sharia compliance reviews, provides regulatory, advisory feasibility studies and corporate governance, provides Sharia arbitration services to business sector, regulators and judiciary system.

Throughout his long banking career, Mr. Qasim has held leadership roles as General Manager for major commercial banks in Qatar, Bahrain, and Jordan. Under his stewardship, some of the banks he headed have achieved a major successful turnaround to being profitable institutions with stable operations. In recognition of his achievements as General Manager, Qatar Central Bank “hailed Mr. Qasim for his role in bringing one local bank to profitability in record time and managing it through a period of financial difficulties”

Mr. Qasim is a frequent speaker in the topics of Islamic banking and corporate governance, and has participated in several banking industry events and panel discussions in the region and abroad. He has also written specialized papers and articles on the fundamentals and prospects of Islamic banking.

Islamic banking is also an area of expertise that Mr. Qasim has mastered as part of his professional track record. He was one of the few senior bankers engaged with Islamic banks at the early stages of this industry’s development in the Middle-East region.

Back in the eighties, he participated in the foundation and was the General Manager of Qatar Islamic Bank, the first Islamic bank in Qatar and one of the largest Islamic banks in the region, with current market cap. of around US\$ 3.4 billion. He also held the General Manager position for Qatar International Islamic Bank, the other Islamic bank in Qatar, where he led both institutions to profitability and contributed in shaping the Islamic banking industry in Qatar and the GCC.

In accordance with QFC regulations, Allied Advisors LLC will be led by a counsel of prominent scholars in the field of Sharia Jurisprudence.



Dr. Ali Al Qaradaghi will head the Sharia counsel. Dr. Al Qaradaghi, a very renowned scholar across the Moslem world and Islamic circles worldwide holds PhD degree in Sharia and Law from Al Azhar University and is currently a Professor of Islamic Jurisprudence at Qatar University. He is a member of many Islamic institutes, unions and conferences. He also sits as head or member in many Sharia advisory boards of financial institutions involved in the promotion of Sharia compliant products. Dr Al Qaradaghi has compiled more than 55 books and works in different Sharia compliant fields including Islamic Banking and investments.

The address of Allied Advsiors LLC in Doha-Qatar is as follows:

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