

The Premier Takaful Gathering of the Year

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‘There is much to do and not a moment to lose,’ said Daud Vicary Abdullah of INCIEF, Guest of Honour, at the International Takaful Awards ceremony on Wednesday evening, July 11. The awards ceremony was part of the yearly three day conference, produced and arranged by Afkar Consulting and Istishar IQ. ‘Whilst some of the awards have become yearly tradition, we have added further categories this year to acknowledge the tremendous growth in the industry, especially with regard to new and innovative products and the proliferation of Takaful in wider geographical regions. Indeed, the development of Takaful in Africa and the Levant region, though not surprising, is especially worth noting,’ said Mohaned Abdullah, Management Director of Istishar IQ.

Some of the staple awards such as Best International Law Firm, Broker and Ratings Agency which went to Norton Rose, AON Benfield and Standard & Poor’s, respectively, were no surprise. These organisations have weathered every storm and stayed strong in the face of adversity; growing from strength to strength with each passing year. eTiQa Takaful was especially praised by Mohaned Abdullah, whilst announcing the awards, not only for winning three awards in the categories of Best International Marketing Company; Best Takaful Company, Asia and Best Bancatakaful, Asia. eTiQa has never missed out on the Marketing award and their strategy has been praised as innovative and creative, time and time again.

Many of the guests commended the presence of 3i infotech in the Takaful industry, which has diligently added six new clients to its portfolio due to its unique Takaful product, Premier. Senior Vice President, Ashish Dass , whilst accepting the award for best Technology Company reminded guests that technology is an enabler stating, ‘Thank you for recognising technology in the Takaful industry; it is only through the support of our clients that we dare to create.’

Best Takaful Company, Middle East was awarded to Salama Takaful, one of the oldest Takaful Companies in the world. Whilst accepting the award Dr. Saleh Malaikah, Chairman at Salama Takaful, stated, ‘We have been around since the beginning and are honoured for the recognition we have received tonight. I am proud to receive this award on behalf of our team and proud of the Takaful industry.’

A new category of awards was introduced this year to represent the Africa & Levant regions. The award for Best Takaful Company in this category went to Islamic Insurance Company Jordan, whilst the Best Re-Takaful Company was awarded to Africa Retakaful, which although only in operation since 2010 has made a big splash in the industry. Yousif el Lazim Gamma , accepted the award on behalf of Africa Retakaful saying, ‘In light of this recognition we, now, bear a higher responsibility to the industry to keep up our standard and keep growing.’

Datuk Noripah Kamso accepted the award on behalf of CIMB Principal Islamic Asset Management for Best Asset Management House, Asia and announced that the company would have entered the Billion dollar club by the end of July. She was also the extremely surprised recipient of the Contribution to Islamic Asset Management Award, which she accepted with much grace. She dedicated this personal award to her husband, who was seated in the audience. Other personal awards went to Chakib Abouzaid for Retakaful leader of the year and Sohail Jaffer for Outstanding Contribution to Takaful. Mr. Jaffer graciously thanked the organisers, stating ‘...this conference has become the flagship event for Takaful in the last few years ...’

The 6th International Takaful Summit concluded on the eve of 12 July with a VIP dinner for sponsors, speakers and honoured guests at The Chartered Institute of Insurance. Afkar Consulting and Istishar iQ have announced that this was the most successful conference in the last six years with attendees exceeding 450 guests and feedback being extremely positive. Susan Dingwall, Partner at Norton Rose and recipient of the award for Best International Law Firm stated that, ‘This event has gone from a date on the Takaful calendar to a “must go” event of the year. It is the representation from a wide geographical spread and the quality of content which has resulted in this conference being the “most attended” Takaful event of the year.’

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Note to Editor:

- Conference dates: 10 – 12 July
- Organisers: Afkar and Istishar iQ

For further information or to register visit: www.takafulsummit.com/2012

Summit Contacts:

Mohaned Abdullah
Managing Director
Istishar iQ
Email: mohaned@takafulsummit.com
Phone: +44 77 6581 1312

Randa Buaras
PR & Marketing Manager
Afkhar Consulting
Email: randa@takafulsummit.com
Phone: +44 20 8861 2012
Fax: +44 20 8426 0936