



## "Greece and the Arab World: Envisioning a Shared Future"

## **Under the Auspices:**









The 6<sup>th</sup> Arab-Hellenic Economic Forum has ended its two-day event with a notable success. As far as the attendance, organization and selected topics are concerned, it proved to be overwhelmingly rich and interactive. The Opening Ceremony on 29th November 2017, was attended by dignitaries from Greece and the Arab world, i.e. the Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, H.E. Mr. George Katrougalos, the Deputy Minister of Industry & Trade of Libya, H.E. Mr. Taher Sharkez, the Dean of Arab Ambassadors & the Ambassador of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Marwan Toubassi, the Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs of the State of Arab League, Ambassador Dr. Kamal Hassan Ali, the Vice President of the Union of Arab Chambers. Mr. Mohammed Abdo Said, to mention but a few. It was followed by the first session on "Start Up Businesses, Financing, Expansion and Partnerships", a topic that has been introduced at our Forum for the first time, as it represents a growing sector that can empower young Entrepreneurs to explore their ideas, visions and lead to success stories. The Keynote Speech was delivered by H.E. Mr. Suleiman Jasir Al-Herbish, Director-General, OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), Vienna, Federal Republic of Austria. The second session has dealt with investment opportunities, incentives & facilitations, a topic that concerns both sides, the Greek and the Arab, in terms of investment exploration of the abundant resources that both sides enjoy. Both sessions have aroused quite an interest, judging from the comments, questions and general response of the Forum's audience.





At the official dinner, there were two major speeches delivered, one by Mr. Tawfic Said Khoury, Executive Vice Chairman of CCC and the other by the Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Yiannis Dragasakis. It was attended, among other, by the Minister of Maritime and Insular Policy, Greece, by H.E. Mr. Panagiotis Kouroublis, by the Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece, H.E. Mr. George Katrougalos, as well as, by many other Arab and Greek dignitaries and businessmen.



The second day's program started with the third session on "Construction, energy and building material" and was followed by the 4<sup>th</sup> interesting topic on "Maritime & Ports Industries", with the Keynote Speaker Dr. Christos Lampridis, General Secretary of Ports, Port Policy and Maritime Investments, Ministry of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy, Greece. This session was attended by the key industry CEO's and experts. Equally interesting and interactive proved to be the fifth session on "Digital & Technological Advancements - Creation of New Economic Realities", with speeches delivered by CEOs and experts in this field from Greece and the Arab World.

The afternoon program of the Forum was concluded with the B2B meetings between Arab Businessmen and their Greek counterparts in all the business sectors. It is worth mentioning that this Forum has witnessed an overwhelming Arab participation. Along with the attendance of several Presidents of Arab Federations and Chambers of Commerce and other Arab Representatives, there were about 200 Arab businessmen that were present at this Forum. The Greek side's attendance was also overwhelming, with 95 CEOs and many other Representatives of Greek companies.



We, at the Arab-Hellenic Chamber, supported by our prominent sponsors, pride ourselves on successful delivering of this Forum.