







## Women in Senior Management: Masterclass in Leadership

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:00 am ET/4:00 pm KSA Hybrid event via Zoom

## **Speaker Bios**



Martina Strong
Charge d'Affaires, US Mission to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Martina Strong is honored to lead the US Mission to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as Chargé d'Affaires. She is joined in Riyadh by her husband, U.S. Army Col. John L. Strong (Ret.) and their daughter Eleanore. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ms. Strong previously served in Iraq as Political Minister Counselor in Baghdad and as the U.S. Army's Political Advisor in Basrah. Prior to her arrival in Riyadh, she was the Deputy Chief of Mission in Bulgaria. Her other overseas postings included Poland, the Czech Republic, Bosnia Herzegovina, and France. Ms. Strong also spent two years as Director on the National Security Council at the White House, where she

headed the U.S. government's multi-agency effort to organize the 2004 G-8 Summit in Sea Island, as well as two other G-8 Summits and various multilateral meetings. The Department of State has recognized Ms. Strong's achievements with numerous awards, including the AFSA Sinclaire Language Award and eleven Superior Honor and Senior Performance Awards. During her service in Iraq, the U.S. Army awarded her the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and the Superior Civilian Service Award. In Bulgaria, the Defense Minister honored Ms. Strong with the Meritorious Service Medal for her contributions to the U.S.-Bulgarian security partnership.



Renée McGowan

President, Asia Middle East & Africa, Mercer

Based in Hong Kong, Renée McGowan is Mercer's President, Asia Middle East & Africa (AMEA), leading Mercer's business across 18 markets in this fast-growing, dynamic region. She is also Chairperson of Mercer in Japan and Executive Director on Mercer boards in China and Hong Kong. In her career at Mercer, Renée has held several key leadership roles including Global Leader for Individual Wealth and Chief Customer & Marketing Officer for the Pacific region. A global executive, Renée has helmed businesses in

Hong Kong, London, Melbourne, New York, Singapore, and Sydney. A fervent advocate for the financial inclusion and security of individuals, Renée led Mercer's partnership with the World Economic Forum on the Retirement and Investment Systems Reform Project in 2017-18. She is also a regular speaker at major international forums and contributor to international media, including WEF, The New York Times, The South China Morning Post and CNBC. Renée was named one of Employee Benefit Adviser's 2018 Top Women in Benefit Advising (United States) and recognized for two consecutive years in the Top 10 CMO's in Australia (CMO50) by CMO Magazine (Australia). Renée was also awarded a Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal by the Australian Government for delivering humanitarian services overseas.



Olivia Bellingham

Senior Vice President for Strategy (Middle East), Mastercard

Olivia Bellingham is Mastercard's Senior Vice President for Strategy (Middle East). In this role, she leads the development of corporate strategies and objectives, based on deep analytical insights, supported by bespoke pricing frameworks, and complemented with mergers and acquisitions where applicable. Her key accomplishments include deploying half a billion USD of equity capital across various companies to accelerate Mastercard's regional strategy, building the Analytics and Business Insights function from the

ground up to support decision-making and performance-tracking, contributing significantly to Mastercard's annual P&L targets through the pricing function, and working with cross-functional stakeholders. Previously, Olivia served as Vice President of Investor Relations and Director of Corporate Communications at CA Technologies; Director of Strategic Development at Vivendi; and Private Equity Analyst at Bruckmann, Rosser, Sherrill, & Co. She began her career at Deutsche Bank as an Investment Banking Analyst in the Financial Sponsors Group. Olivia holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkley. Moreover, she is a graduate of Columbia University Business School's Executive Education Program, Leading Strategic Growth, as well as the Executive Education, Accelerating Change Readiness Program at the Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkley.



**Teresa Carlson**President and Chief Growth Officer, Splunk

As President and Chief Growth Officer at Splunk, Teresa Carlson leads the company's efforts to align and drive its ongoing business transformations across its go-to-market segments. Most recently, she served as Vice President, Worldwide Public Sector and Industries, for Amazon Web Services (AWS). After she founded AWS's Worldwide Public Sector in 2010, Carlson's role eventually expanded to include financial services, energy services, telecommunications, and aerospace

and services industry business units. Carlson has also been a strong advocate for empowering women in the technology field. That passion led to the creation of "We Power Tech," AWS's diversity and inclusion initiative, which aims to ensure underrepresented groups – including women – are reflected throughout all AWS outreach efforts. Carlson dedicates time to philanthropic and leadership roles in support of the global community. Prior to joining AWS in 2010, she led sales, marketing and business development organizations at Microsoft, Keyfile/Lexign, and NovaCare. Carlson holds a B.A. and M.S. from Western Kentucky University.



**Kholoud Mousa** 

Partner and Head of Inclusion & Diversity, KPMG Saudi Arabia

Kholoud Mousa is a partner and the head of inclusion and diversity at KPMG Saudi Arabia. She was the first Saudi woman to qualify as a CPA in Saudi Arabia and she had the honor of being the first female partner in any of the Big Four professional services firms in the country. Kholoud previously served as a member of the Governance Committee of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). Prior to joining KPMG, she worked as the finance and administration director at one of the most prestigious, private universities in KSA. She has also worked at one of the Big Four firms as an

audit partner, serving clients across the region. Kholoud is a Board member of ILMI Museum, an entity under the MiSK Foundation, a well-known not-for-profit organization in KSA. Kholoud has 20 years of audit, finance and advisory experience across various industries and possesses a thorough knowledge of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). As a passionate advocate for diversity and a leader of I&D at KPMG, she has been engaged in leading country-wide nationalization strategy, youth development, women's empowerment, and inclusion and diversity strategy. She also promotes audit and financial advisory as a profession to Saudi graduates, especially women. Kholoud was elected a member of the B20 Women in Business Action Council in Saudi Arabia in 2020 and hosted a session in the W20 final summit with international KPMG delegates. Additionally, she participated in several national dialog discussions as part of KPMG Saudi Arabia's partnership with the W20 during Saudi Arabia's G20 presidency year. In 2019, she was named as one of the Top 20 Saudi Women in Finance, Economy, and Commerce.

## **Moderator Bios**



**Amjad Ahmad** 

Director and Resident Senior Fellow, empowerME, Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East, Atlantic Council

Amjad Ahmad is director and resident senior fellow of empowerME at the Atlantic Council's Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East. He focuses on shaping innovative investments to empower entrepreneurs, women, and the private sector in the Middle East. He develops strategies and policies to drive sustainable prosperity through the creation of dynamic entrepreneurial economies, the economic participation of women, and educational

transformation. Amjad is also managing partner of the venture capital firm Precinct Partners and serves on the boards of Homzmart, Tapal Tea, RSA Global, Mr. Usta, and The Luxury Closet. He was recently appointed to the board of Amideast, a leading US nonprofit organization engaged in international education, training, and development activities in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as building cross-cultural understanding between the United States and the region. Based in the United Arab Emirates for fifteen years prior to moving to Washington, DC, Amjad has collaborated with business leaders and entrepreneurs to build leading companies in the Middle East. Through his work as a venture capital and growth investor, Amjad established two investment firms in the region that provided over \$1 billion in funding to over fifty companies in sectors ranging from technology and education to healthcare and finance. During the past five years, Amjad has focused his investments on entrepreneurship, innovation, and technology. Amjad holds a master's degree in international affairs with a concentration in international finance and economics from Columbia University and is a graduate of the general management program at Harvard Business School.



Jaime Stansbury

Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce in Saudi Arabia

Jaime Stansbury has been based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for over a decade. She first came to Saudi Arabia as a strategy and operations consultant in Deloitte Consulting's Federal Practice in Washington, D.C. For two years, she led operations to set-up a bilateral program management office for the U.S Embassy in Riyadh. Since launching her own consulting practice six years ago, Ms. Stansbury has been advising leading government ministries, higher education institutions, and multinational firms.

Her insights into the local culture and ability to communicate in Arabic brings clarity to projects and helps create strong connections built on trust. Currently as a consultant to the Institute of International Education in the Gulf, Ms. Stansbury leads the effort to develop programs and partnerships for international exchange and workforce development with government entities, higher education institutions, foundations, and the private sector. For over a century, IIE has been the global leader in international education and annually designs and manages over 200 programs with more than 27,000 participants from 180 countries including ExxonMobil, Chevron, Cargill and Adobe Foundation, GE, Baker Hughes, and Google. Ms. Stansbury currently serves as Executive Director for the American Chamber of Commerce Saudi Arabia and is spearheading efforts to increase and support the growing number of American and Saudi businesswomen and industry professionals working in Saudi Arabia. A graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service with a Master of Arts in Arab Studies program, Ms. Stansbury concentrated in economics and education in the Arab World. She is currently pursuing her MBA at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.