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Hafez Ghanem

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A. Overview

Hafez Ghanem – who holds a PhD in Economics from the University of California, Davis – is a development expert with more than thirty-year experience in policy analysis, project formulation and supervision, and management of multinational institutions. He has worked in over 80 countries in Africa, Europe and Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa, and South East Asia.

He is currently the Vice President of the World Bank responsible for Africa, managing an active regional portfolio of over 600 projects totaling more than \$71 billion as well as a large amount of analytical and advisory work. Between 2015 and 2018 he was the World Bank’s Vice President responsible for the Middle East and North Africa Region. In this capacity he was responsible for developing and implementing the World Bank’s strategy in the region, including a more than \$ 5 billion annual lending program.

During 2012-15 he was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in the Global Economy and Development program. His research focused on the impact of political transition on Arab economic development.

During the period 2007-12 he worked at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as the Assistant Director-General responsible for the Economic and Social Development Department. This Department, with more than 300 employees from all over the world, is responsible for FAO’s analytical work on agricultural economics and food security, trade and markets, gender and equity, and statistics.

Prior to joining FAO, he spent twenty-four years on the staff of the World Bank where he started as a research economist and then senior economist in West Africa and later South Asia. In 1995, he moved to Europe and Central Asia where he was Sector Leader for Public Economics and Trade Policy. In 2000, he returned to Africa as Country Director for Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles. In 2004, he became Country Director for Nigeria where he led a multinational team of more than 100 professionals, managing the Bank’s loan portfolio of some USD 1.5 billion. He has many publications in professional journals and was a member of the core team that produced the 1995 World Development Report.

He is fluent in Arabic, English and French, and has some knowledge of Italian and Russian.

B. General

<i>Date of birth:</i>	March 1957
<i>Place of birth:</i>	Cairo, Egypt
<i>Nationality:</i>	Egyptian and French
<i>Marital status:</i>	Married, two children
<i>Languages:</i>	Arabic (native), French (fluent), English (fluent), Italian (intermediate), Russian (some knowledge)

C. Education

1980-83: PhD in economics from the University of California, Davis. Fields of concentration: international trade, monetary theory and econometrics. Dissertation title: “Uncertainty and Investment in International Trade Models” (completed in 1987).

1978-80: MA in economics from the American University in Cairo. Thesis title: “The Export Problems of a Less Developed Country: A Case Study of Egypt”.

1974-78: BA in economics from the American University in Cairo.

D. Work Experience

- 1. 2018-Present:* Regional Vice President for Africa, The World Bank
- 2. 2015-18:* Regional Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank
- 3. 2012 –15:* Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution (leader of the Arab Economies project)
- 3. 2007-2012:* Assistant Director General, Economic and Social Development, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

4. 1983-2007: staff of the World Bank, including:

<i>2004-2007:</i>	Country Director for Nigeria- Africa Region
<i>2000-2004:</i>	Country Director for Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles – Africa Region
<i>1997-2000:</i>	Sector leader, Public Economics and Trade Policy -- Europe and Central Asia Region
<i>1995-1997:</i>	Principal Economist covering Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine – Europe and Central Asia Region
<i>1994-1995:</i>	Member of the core team preparing the 1995 World Development Report (Workers in an Integrating World)
<i>1991-1994:</i>	Senior economist in the Resident mission in Dhaka, Bangladesh – South Asia Region
<i>1988-1991:</i>	Senior economist in the regional mission in West Africa (Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire) – Africa Region
<i>1987-1988:</i>	Country economist for Côte d’Ivoire, Africa Region
<i>1984-1987:</i>	Research economist in the resource mobilization division of the country policy department (worked on Cameroon, the Philippines and Tunisia)
<i>1983-1984:</i>	Young Professional (worked on Indonesia and Senegal)

5. *1980-1983:* Teaching Assistant at the University of California, Davis

6. *1978-1980:* Free-lance consultant in Cairo, Egypt

E. Selected Publications

‘Resource Mobilization for Agriculture and Food Security’ with Kartika Bhatia (2019) in C. Campanhola and S. Pandey eds. Sustainable Food and Agriculture: An Integrated Approach, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and Elsevier Inc., Rome.

‘How Do Education and Unemployment Affect Support for Violent Extremism: Evidence from Eight Arab Countries’ with Kartika Bhatia (2017) Global Economy Working Paper No. 103, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

‘The Arab Spring Five Years Later: Toward Greater Inclusiveness’ Volumes 1 and 2, (2016), Brookings Institution Press: Washington, D.C.

‘Agriculture and Rural Development for Inclusive Growth and Food Security in Morocco’ (2015) Global Economy Working Paper No. 74, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

‘Arab Youth: Missing Educational Foundations for a Productive Life?’ (2014) Center for Universal Education at Brookings, The Brookings Institution Washington, D.C. with Liesbet Steer and Maysa Jalbout.

‘Improving Rural and Regional Development for Inclusive Growth in Egypt’ (2014) Global Economy Working Paper No. 67, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

‘Egypt’s Difficult Transition: Why the International Economy Must Stay Economically Engaged’ (2014) Global Economy Working Paper No. 66, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

“On the Brink: Preventing Economic Collapse and Promoting Economic Growth in Egypt and Tunisia” (2013), with Salman Shaikh, U.S.-Islamic World Forum Papers 2013, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

“The Role of Micro and Small enterprises in Egypt’s Transition” (2013) Global Economy Working Paper No. 55, The Brookings Institution: Washington, D.C.

After the Spring: Economic Transitions in The Arab World (2012), with Homi Kharas, Raj Desai and others, Oxford University Press: New York.

“Food and Nutrition Security: Key Policy Challenges and the Role of Global Governance” (2011), Global Policy, London School of Economics: London.

“How to Stop the Rise in Food Price Volatility” (2011), International Economic Bulletin, Carnegie Endowment: Washington, D.C.

“Fiscal Adjustment and Contingent Government Liabilities: Case Studies of the Czech Republic and Macedonia” (2001) in Shanta Devarajan, F. Halsey Rogers and Lyn Squire eds. World Bank Economists’ Forum volume 1, The World Bank: Washington D.C.

“The Ivorian Cocoa and Coffee Boom of 1976-79: the end of a miracle?” (1999) in Paul Collier and Jan Willem Gunning eds. Trade Shocks in Developing Countries Clarendon Press: Oxford.

“Does Democracy Facilitate Economic Transition?”(1999), with Jean-Jacques Dethier and Edda Zoli, Journal for Institutional Development, Innovation and Transition.

“Macroeconomics Issues for Sovereign Debt Management in the EU Acceding Countries” (1998), with Homi Kharas, in European Union Accession: The Challenge of Public Liability Measurements in Central Europe, a volume Cosponsored by the European Commission and the World Bank, The World Bank: Washington D.C.

“Labor Market Regulations, Trade Liberalization and the Distribution of Income in Bangladesh” (1998), with Shanta Devarajan and Karen Thierfelder, Journal of Policy Reform.

“Does the Type of Political Regime Matter for Trade and Labor Market Policies?” (1997), with Arup Banerji, The World Bank Economic Review.

“Economic Reform and Labor Unions: A General-Equilibrium Analysis Applied to Bangladesh and Indonesia” (1997), with Shanta Devarajan and Karen Thierfelder, The World Bank Economic Review.

Jobs, Poverty and Working Conditions in South Asia, (1995), The World Bank: Washington DC.

“Workers Need Open Markets and Active Governments” (1995), with Michael Walton, Finance and Development.

“Fiscal Policy with Fixed Nominal Exchange Rates: Côte d’Ivoire” (1994) , with Christophe Chamley, in William Easterly, Carlos Alfredo Rodriguez and Klaus Schmidt-Hebbel eds. “Public Sector Deficits and Macroeconomic Performance,” Oxford University Press: New York.

“LDC Foreign Borrowing and the Real Exchange Rate: an Empirical Analysis” (1986), with Homi Kharas, Studies in Banking and Finance.