

Hanan Nazem Saab

Member of the Board of Trustees

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Mrs. Hanan Saab was born in Choueifat, Lebanon. A third generation pharmacist, she graduated from the American University of Beirut (AUB) with distinction, and was awarded the venerated Penrose Award.

She is married to Akram Sami Saab and is the mother of Sami, Nour and Rim.

She practiced hospital pharmacy at the American University Hospital (AUH) for 5 years and despite the unstable political situation, she decided to start her own business "Pharmamed" in 1990. The main focus of the company is the importation and marketing of medical supplies and novelty pharmaceutical products, based on exclusive representation from renowned foreign companies. Pharmamed currently represents 116 companies from European and US origin and has expanded its activities to Jordan, Syria and other areas in the Gulf, through its network of sub-distributors.

Mrs. Saab was featured by Forbes magazine in 2014 as one of the most powerful 200 women in the Arab World.

She is a member of the Lebanese Order of Pharmacy and the Lebanese Pharmaceutical Importers Association.

As well as one of the founding members of the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB) which was incepted late 2006, and its former president (2008- 2014). Furthermore, she is a founding, and board member of the MENA Business Women Network (MENA BWN), and its former vice president (2008- 2014), as well as a board member of the Arab International Women Forum (AIWF, 2012 to date).

Most recently, Mrs. Saab chaired the *Cartier Women Initiative Award* for the MENA region (2012 to 2015) and is to date one of its jury members; this represents a global corporate social responsibility initiative launched in 2006, targeting women empowerment in entrepreneurship.

Mrs. Saab was an active member of the AUB Alumni Association and Chair of Relations & Welfare Committee (2005-2008). She is also a founding member of Sabis Alumni, and MEPI Alumni.

Mrs. Saab was featured in many magazines like *Arabian Business* and the *Financial Times* in an article titled "Leading Arab Business Women" as well as books like "*Entrepreneurs at the Crossroads*" by the Beyster Institute at the University California - San Diego, and "*Domains of Influence*" by AIWF on Arab women entrepreneurs in the MENA area.

She has been a speaker on women in business and women entrepreneurship at a number of conferences like the Woodrow Wilson Conference and at forums like the Mediterranean Forum for Women Entrepreneurs, World Bank, OECD, The Economist and most recently the ILO.

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