## Fouad Makhzoumi Executive Chairman Future Pipe Industries, UAE

Mr. Fouad Makhzoumi was born in Beirut, Lebanon. He received his preliminary and secondary education at the International College in Beirut and then he obtained undergraduate (1974) and Master of Science degrees (1975) in Chemical Engineering from Michigan Technological University, in Michigan, United States of America. Mr. Makhzoumi was appointed a Commander of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy in 2013.

In 1975, Mr. Fouad Makhzoumi, a new graduate and confident young man, sought an opportunity to make his fortune in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In the world of business, he has shown imagination, initiative, a readiness to take bold steps and to undertake adventurous projects. In Saudi Arabia, Mr. Makhzoumi played a strategic role in developing one of largest private industrial group of companies.

In 1984, a company controlled by Mr. Fouad Makhzoumi, acquired a substantial interest in a UAE based pipe manufacturing and trading business. Under Mr. Makhzoumi's leadership and industrial expertise what became the Future Pipe Industries Group, which is now wholly owned by Future Group Holdings, has grown into one of the world's largest producers of composite pipe systems and is now global in its scope of activities with specialized subsidiaries throughout the world.

As well as Future Pipe Industries, Mr. Makhzoumi controls a diverse portfolio of investments including: engineering; industrial; commercial; research; real estate; security; information; multimedia and publishing businesses. Together, these companies employ more than 3,500 people across the world, in countries including: Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Italy, France, The Netherlands, Germany, UK, Spain, Morocco, U.S.A., Thailand, India, Indonesia and Singapore.

Mr. Makhzoumi has been the Executive Chairman of Future Pipe Industries since 2003 and he is also currently its Chief Executive Officer. He has also been the Executive Chairman of Future Group Holdings since 1982.

## **Public Activities**

In addition to his achievements in the world of commerce, Mr. Makhzoumi has throughout his career participated in a wide range of public and political activities. He believes his economic and business experience gives him particular insight as to political and social situations, not only in Lebanon but also in the Arab World in general and he has long been a prominent figure in international, political and diplomatic circles. His involvement in public affairs intensified after the Lebanese civil war ended and in 2004 he founded the National Dialogue Party in Lebanon, of which he has acted as its Secretary General since its foundation.

Other key public activities include:

- A member of the Board of the US Middle East Project (USMEP) (1994-);
- President of the International Desalination Association (1995-1997);
- Vice Chairman of the Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (1995-1998);

- Member of the International Board of the Council on Foreign Relations: US/Middle East Project (1996-);
- Member of the Board of the Arab Reform Initiative (ARI) (2006-);
- Member of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) (2008-2010);
- Member of the Board of the International Council for Middle East Studies (ICMES) (2009-);
- Member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) (2009-);
- Member of the Middle East Board of the S. Olayan Business School at the American University of Beirut (2011-);
- Member of the De Gasperi Foundation (2012-); and
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Buck Institute (2013-).

Mr. Makhzoumi has made a great many contributions and appearances in the print and broadcast media, including the "Alhiwar" newspaper which he founded in 1999 which was the first to issue a daily electronic newspaper, in English and Arabic, which is the "Mirror of the Arab Press".

He sponsored a study on "Harnessing Trade for Development and Growth in the Middle East", prepared by a group of experts selected by the US Council on Foreign Relations.

## **Humanitarian and Philanthropic Activities**

Mr. Makhzoumi devotes much of his time and resources to charitable deeds. In 1997, he founded the Makhzoumi Foundation, a private Lebanese non-profit organization that contributes through its vocational training, health care and micro-credit programs to Lebanese civil society development. In 1998, a sister Foundation, "Makhzoumi Foundation (USA) Inc.", was set up to give a wider support to the Lebanese Foundation.

The Micro Credit Loan program provides small loans to individuals in order to help them finance their own sustainability in life. This program has already provided over 6,500 loans to underprivileged Lebanese families to start or expand small businesses through capital loans made on the basis of their sound planning rather than financial collateral. The micro credit loan program is carried-out with, primarily, the financial support of the Founder, Mr. Makhzoumi, and of international organizations, such as USAID and LIM. In addition to this vibrant loan program, the Makhzoumi Foundation operates vocational centers in which thousands of Lebanese citizens are provided with training in languages, computer skills, as well as internet skills, hardware repairs, hairdressing, barbering, beauty, photo and video shooting, plus other vocational skills. It provides also health care through its clinics across the country. Moreover, the Foundation implements different projects related to environment and sustainable development. Any Lebanese citizen is eligible for these programs and acceptance criteria are based on the basis of "need, not creed". So far, over 250,000 people have benefited from the Foundation's Programs.

Mr. Makhzoumi has forged strong relationships with a number of leading educational institutions and has established a number of endowments, including: at the University of Alberta, Canada, the "Makhzoumi Lebanese Studies Endowment" (2009); at the American University of Beirut, the

"Rami Makhzoumi Chair in Corporate Governance"	' and	at	the	International	College	in	Beirut
yearly awards for Leadership and Excellence (2012).					C		