

# TAG-Audit Newsletter

Issue 29 - July 2020

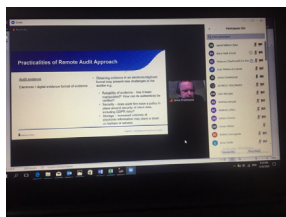
tagi.com | tagorg.com

*Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. International (TAG-Audit) is a leading global accounting and auditing firm. It is considered as an independent member company of Talal Abu- Ghazaleh organization (TAG-Org). TAG-Audit provides a complete range of internal auditing, external auditing, taxation, and other financial services based on international professional standards.*

## IN THIS ISSUE



**During ‘Al Nafitha’ program of QCPA Abu-Ghazaleh:  
The Arab Countries’ Only Way Out of the Economic  
Crisis is Self-sufficiency Strategy** 2



**Abu-Ghazaleh’ Participates in the FOF, IFAC Meetings** 3



**Global Accounting Bodies Launch New Tool for Governments  
Grappling with Fiscal Impact of COVID-19 Interventions** 4

## During ‘Al Nafitha’ program of QCPA Abu-Ghazaleh: The Arab Countries’ Only Way Out of the Economic Crisis is Self-sufficiency Strategy

DOHA – The Qatar Association of Certified Public Accountants (QCPA) hosted HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh in the first episode of an economic dialogue program entitled ‘Al Nafitha’ (the Window), through live streaming on its QCPA YouTube Channel and other social media platforms.

During the program, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh stated that he has previously anticipated the economic crisis that the whole world is suffering from today, pointing out that the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) accelerated its occurrence. He called therefore for taking the necessary measures to get out of this crisis and to stop complaining.

Furthermore, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh predicted a decline in global economic growth to a sub-zero level at different rates in different countries including the United States, China and member states of the European Union. He also stressed that the only way to reach a solution for this global crisis is a joint leadership of a New World Order by the two superpowers the US and China.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh also clarified that the only way for the Arab countries to get out of the economic crisis is to set a plan for ‘Self-sufficiency’ to meet all their basic needs especially in food, medicine and education to help increase gross domestic product (GDP) and keep these countries away from political changes and instabilities.

Moreover, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh underlined the role of professional accountants in overcoming the crisis by offering additional services --apart from preparing financial statements-- such as



business rationalization consulting, merger of institutions to save them from bankruptcy, preparation of restructuring studies in addition to developing studies on services for entering new markets.

During the program, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh pointed out that Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global (TAG. Global) will soon publish a study on the new role of professional accountants during crises, noting that the audit profession needs to develop the accounting standards to keep pace with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Information Technology Revolution) and to come up with solutions and services that address major changes.

It is worth mentioning that the program addresses the most prominent local, regional and global economic issues and their implications from the perspective of senior officials, economic analysts and decision makers from inside and outside Qatar with a bold new vision.

## Abu-Ghazaleh' Participates in the FOF, IFAC Meetings

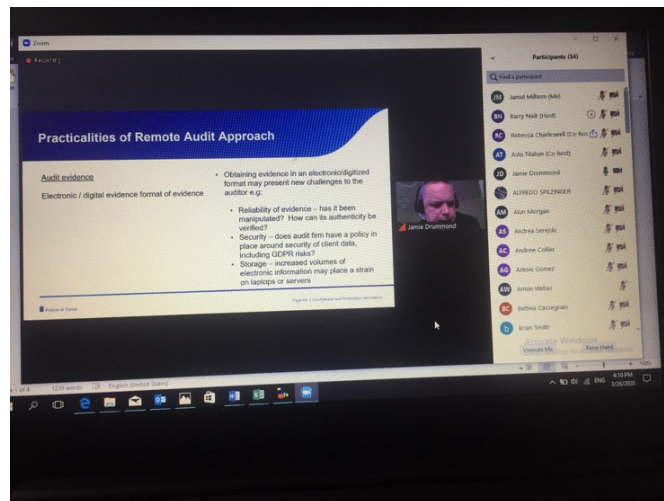
RAMALLAH - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. International (TAGI), a member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global (TAG.Global), participated in the Forum of Firms (FOF), International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) virtual meeting which was recently held via Zoom.

The meeting discussed the suggested IFAC strategy and the professional boards activities and strategies: development and updates on the International Auditing Standards ISAs, the new ISA 500 update, International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR), survey of audit inspection findings and highlights of the 2019 survey results. That is in addition to proposed actions regarding Covid-19: its effects on the progress of the work of different organizations, on conducting the audit by audit networks and its effects on the presentation and disclosures of the financial statements.

The meeting was attended by more than 50 participants from around 28 global audit firms and networks members of the Forum.

Mr. Jamal Milhem, member of TAG.Global Management Board and Executive Director of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & International, has represented the firm in the meetings.

The Forum of Firms (FOF, Forum) is an independent association of international networks of firms that perform transnational audits. The objective of the Forum is to promote consistent and high-quality standards of financial reporting and auditing practices worldwide. Members of the FoF are committed to adhere to and promote the consistent application of high-quality audit practices worldwide.



IFAC is a New York-based global organization for the accountancy profession dedicated to serving public interest by strengthening the profession and contributing to the development of strong international economies. IFAC is comprised of over 180 members and associates in more than 130 countries, representing almost 3 million chartered accountants in the world.

IFIAR comprises independent audit regulators from 55 jurisdictions representing Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Oceania, and Europe. Their objectives consist of improving audit quality globally, strengthening IFIAR's role as the international leader on audit matters through strategic thought leadership and facilitating learning and cooperation among IFIAR Members.

TAGI is a global organization for professional service founded in 1972, providing its services through more than 110 offices worldwide covering various fields such as Accounting, Internal & External Auditing, Capacity Building and other Consulting services. TAGI joined FOF since the foundation of the forum in International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), in 2002.

# Global Accounting Bodies Launch New Tool for Governments Grappling with Fiscal Impact of COVID-19 Interventions

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), in partnership with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB), have published a practical accounting tool for governments and other interested stakeholders to help analyze COVID-19 intervention programs.

With more than \$9 trillion spent by governments globally on fiscal interventions in the past three months, the effect of the pandemic on public finances will be both immediate and long-lasting. Understanding the design of these interventions, how they are delivered and funded, as well as their impact on the financial position of governments, is critical to manage current challenges and secure sustainable public finances in the future.

“Government accounting is not the first priority that comes to mind when people think about the current pandemic. Yet, there’s evidence that having a comprehensive and well-managed balance sheet supports strong public programs, including for healthcare and economic wellbeing,” said Alta Prinsloo, IFAC Executive Director. “It’s never too late for countries to adopt accounting best practices, including accrual-based International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and we hope this guidance will help governments make the case for doing so.”

## The COVID-19 Intervention Assessment Tool includes:

- A step-by-step process and assessment tool to help assess, evaluate, and inform various types of government interventions related to the pandemic;
- An overview of the pathway to accrual IPSAS for governments.

“By utilizing accrual accounting, governments can gain a more complete understanding of their financial standing and ability to recover from the impacts of the pandemic,” said Andreas Bergmann, Professor of Public Finance at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW).



**International Federation of Accountants®**

“This will not be the last time governments will need to act to mitigate an economic crisis and accrual accounting also helps designing economic interventions in a sustainable way.”

IFAC and ZHAW remain committed to advocating for, and supporting, strong public financial management in economies globally. This tool is the latest effort to support the adoption and implementation of IPSAS and accrual accounting in the public sector.

## About IFAC

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) is the global organization for the accountancy profession dedicated to serving the public interest by strengthening the profession and contributing to the development of strong international economies. IFAC is comprised of more than 175 members and associates in more than 130 countries and jurisdictions, representing more than 3 million accountants in public practice, education, government service, industry, and commerce.

## About the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW)

Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) was founded in 1874 in Winterthur/Switzerland and nowadays includes eight disciplinary schools. The ZHAW School of Management & Law is the largest business school in Switzerland and only one of four which are internationally accredited by AACSB. Public Financial Management has been part of its curriculum for more than 50 years and became a key area of research in 1996.

<https://www.ifac.org/news-events/2020-07/global-accounting-bodies-launch-new-tool-governments-grappling-fiscal-impact-covid-19-interventions>