

# Senior Bankers Join TAIB Private Bank

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Manama (Bahrain): TAIB Bank E.C. today confirmed the appointments of Mr. Ali Smili as Director in charge of GCC Relationship Management, Mr. Ebrahim Al Lengawi as Deputy Director, and Ms. Roaya Saleh as Deputy Director and Head of Women's Private Banking. TAIB is positioning itself to be one of the Gulf's first regional private banks. The three senior officers recently joined TAIB as part of the transition.

An investment veteran with more than twenty-five years of experience in the wealth management field, Mr. Ali Smili previously held senior posts with Merrill Lynch and Salomon Smith Barney. He held top management positions in Dubai, Bahrain, Kuwait, and the United States. Mr. Smili has his MBA from the University of Toledo in the U.S. and has a distinguished track record serving clients throughout the Gulf region.

Mr. Ebrahim Ahmed Al Lengawi also has more than twenty years of banking and investment experience. He held senior positions with the Gulf International Bank, the National Bank of Bahrain, Ahli United Bank, and Towry Law in Bahrain. At Towry Law, Mr. Al Lengawi was Deputy Director in Bahrain and a senior officer giving investment assistance to high-net-worth customers. Mr. Al Lengawi is a graduate of the University of Bahrain and has an MBA from the U.K.

Also joining TAIB is Roaya Saleh to head Women's Private Banking. Ms. Saleh has ten years of wealth management experience. She previously worked with Towry Law and the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait in Bahrain, serving GCC investors. She is a Certified Financial Advisor, is married, and has four children.

"We are delighted to welcome Ali Smili, Ebrahim Al Lengawi, and Roaya Saleh to TAIB," said James Schlagheck, Executive Vice President in charge of TAIB Private Bank. "As one of the GCC's first regional private banks, TAIB is set to deliver comprehensive wealth management services to its clients, and we are pleased to have three highly experienced officers take leadership roles with us."

Mr. Smili recently relocated to Bahrain, where he lived for twelve years in between two years in Dubai and eight years in Kuwait. "Bahrain is an important base for serving high-net-worth clients," he said. Mr. Al Lengawi is a Bahraini national who has served customers in Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Ms. Saleh, a Bahraini national, will primarily serve women investors and select institutions in the Gulf.

The new officers explained that TAIB Private Bank is narrowly focused on helping clients protect, enlarge and transfer their wealth. “TAIB is one of very few regional banks exclusively focused on wealth management,” said Ms. Saleh.

“I am pleased to see TAIB offering innovative Islamic investment products and comprehensive brokerage services,” Mr. Smili said. “TAIB has several Islamic index funds that are the very first such Shariah-compliant investments of their kind, and they are producing very attractive returns.” Mr. Al Lengawi noted that TAIB uses multiple, external asset managers to oversee the investments which TAIB offers. “It’s exciting to join a group that uses several different ‘best-in-class’ managers to manage each fund,” Al Lengawi commented, “and it’s also exciting to join a private bank that co-invests with its customers in every investment that it recommends.”

Mr. Schlagheck explained that TAIB is enlarging its capital base, widening its product offerings, and increasing the number and experience levels of its private banking staff.

Said Schlagheck: “Ali Smili, Ebrahim Al Lengawi, and Roaya Saleh bring us powerful expertise. They add to our strength.”

Meanwhile, TAIB continues to interview candidates for other senior wealth management positions. “We are excited about TAIB Private Bank’s future and our roles with the group,” Ms. Saleh affirmed.

**TAIB Bank E.C.**

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