

## ELIE SAFAR



Mr. Safar is an advisor who works with groups to re-structure them, enhance internal controls, and build their corporate governance framework. Companies he served include financial institutions, FMCG, fashion retail, general contracting, etc.

He is a team player with a clear vision, proven leadership skills, proficient in internal controls, versed in financial management, exposed to complex environments, who established and managed Internal Audit Departments.

He is an appointed speaker with the Union of Arab Banks اتحاد المصارف العربية, The Institute of Internal Auditors, Florida<sup>1</sup>, USA, The Institute of Internal Auditors in the United Arab Emirates, and The Institute of Internal Auditors in Lebanon.

He started at the Comptroller's Office of the American University of Beirut (AUB), a University which operates a Medical Center. He implemented the integrated Personnel/Payroll system, installed a three-way matching Accounts Payable system, concluded a major National Social Security Fund (NSSF) inspection, and coordinated a USAID / ASHA audit.

He was promoted to Assistant Director of Internal Audit where he co-established the activity introducing risk-based auditing.

Afterwards, he moved to the Lebanese American University (LAU) as Director of Internal Audit where he established the Internal Audit Office as an added-value function.

Elie served as Group Chief Internal Auditor at Sakr Power Group (SPG), a group encompassing manufacturing, sales, and rental of Power Generating Sets and implementation of Power Projects.

He was the Head of Consulting at Usamah Tabbarah & Co. (UTC) – Nexia International, an international auditing and consulting firm.

He co-founded "IIA Lebanon", the professional association of internal auditors in Lebanon and was elected President for four terms: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2008.

Between 1990 and 2002, Mr. Safar lectured at LAU's Business School.

In 2001, he founded and coordinated the IIA's "Endorsed Internal Auditing Program" (EIAP)<sup>2</sup>, a program through which students earn a diploma in "Internal Auditing".

He graduated from the American University of Beirut (AUB) with Bachelor and Master's degrees in Business Administration (BBA) and (MBA); he is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in New Hampshire, USA, a licensed CPA in the Lebanese Association of Certified Public Accountant (LACPA), and is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA).

He carries an "Accreditation in Internal Quality Assessment / Validation" from The IIA, Florida, USA.

Mr. Safar received the "Lifetime Achievement Award 2010" granted by The Institute of Internal Auditors – UAE, at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf Audit Conference, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

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<sup>1</sup> He successfully passed the Instructor Development Course (IDC)

<sup>2</sup> Now called Internal Auditing Education Partnership (IAEP)