

# 4th Asian Takaful Conference

30 - 31 March 2009, Orchard Hotel, Singapore

*Theme: The New Takaful Landscape in the Current Global Financial Crisis*

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**Opening Address:**  
**Ng Nam Sin,**  
Executive Director,  
Financial Centre Development Department,  
Monetary Authority of Singapore

**Keynote Address:**  
**Dr Saleh J Malaikah,**  
Chairman of the Board, B.E.S.T Re

**Special Address:**  
**Shafnieda Mohd Iqbar,**  
Deputy Director & Actuary,  
Islamic Banking and Takaful Department,  
Bank Negara Malaysia

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**W**ith the global financial crisis raging, Islamic finance seems to have been relatively unscathed. Takaful still remains a viable option, if not a more attractive option now for both Islamic as well as conventional clients. *Asia Insurance Review*, therefore together with our Lead Sponsor B.E.S.T Re is putting together the next Asian Takaful Conference this year to address the challenges and opportunities facing takaful in the current global financial crisis. The conference, supported by International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF) & the International Insurance and Takaful Companies Federation (FIITC) will look at the theme, "The New Takaful Landscape in the Current Global Financial Crisis".

Takaful seems to have become a fundamental part of the insurance landscape and is growing from strength to strength, within the region and internationally with more players sprouting up even in the West and North America. However, takaful players together with regulators and rating agencies must remain vigilant to ensure that proper risk management practices are in place to determine solvency and capital requirements.

The 4th Takaful Conference will look at issues that affect the Takaful industry in this current financial crisis – the growth potential, corporate governance, maintaining solvency, the role of regulators in ensuring a balanced regulatory framework, and the operational and strategic challenges faced by takaful operators. There will be special panel discussions on issues like surplus distribution, as well as a comparison between how takaful is run in Asia and the Middle East. The conference will touch on the need to boost standards in the takaful world and offer real value to consumers while making sure the industry remains efficient, competitive and compliant. There will be a sharing of success stories in the arena as well as the factors limiting the growth of takaful and retakaful.

Sign up today for this important event to learn from the leaders and to find out how to sharpen the edge of your takaful business and how to make it a serious platform for success. The conference is expected to attract takaful as well as conventional companies from around Asia including insurance and reinsurance companies, Islamic banking institutions, regulators, Shariah scholars, consultants, brokers as well as service providers keen to tap the potential of the takaful market. We hope to see you in Singapore.

### Who Should Attend

- Life & General Insurance & Reinsurance Companies (both Takaful and Conventional)
- Takaful Companies and those providing Takaful insurance services
- Islamic Banking Institutions & Islamic Finance Players
- Regulators
- Shariah Scholars
- Management Consultants
- Reinsurance & Insurance Brokers
- Service Providers to the Takaful industry, ie lawyers, technology companies, loss adjusters, etc.

### Key Topics

- The New Takaful Landscape in the Financial Crisis Era
- Rating Methodology & The Challenge of Maintaining Solvency in Today's Environment
- Is the Regulatory Framework Enabling or Disabling? What can be done?
- Challenges faced by Takaful Operators: Local vs International Players
- Effective Marketing of Takaful Products
- Distribution of Surplus
- Multiple distribution channels in Takaful and MicroTakaful

**With Special Discussion Forums on Surplus Distribution and Takaful Markets in Asia vs Middle East**

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## PROGRAMME

### Day One: 30 March 2009, Monday

Chairman of Conference:

*Sivam Subramaniam, Editor-in-Chief,  
Asia Insurance Review & MiddleEast Insurance Review*

8.00 am Registration & Coffee

9.00 am **Opening Remarks**  
*Ng Nam Sin, Executive Director,  
Financial Centre Development Department,  
Monetary Authority of Singapore*

9.15 am **Keynote Address: The New Takaful Landscape in the Current Financial Crisis**  
*Dr Saleh J Malaikah, Chairman of the Board,  
B.E.S.T Re*

10.00 am **Special Address: Takaful Developments in the Malaysian Market**  
*Shafnieda Mohd Iqbar, Deputy Director  
& Actuary, Islamic Banking and Takaful  
Department, Bank Negara Malaysia*

10.45 am Tea Break

11.15 am **Is the Regulatory Framework Enabling or Disabling? What can be done?**  
*Hassan Scott P Odierno, Principal and Actuary,  
Mercer Zainal Consulting Sdn Bhd*

12.00 nn **Multiple Distribution Channels in Takaful and MicroTakaful**  
*David Piessse, Global Head of Insurance,  
Sun Microsystems*

12.45pm Lunch

2.00 pm **Insurance in the Emerging Markets: Overview and Prospects for Islamic Insurance**  
*Daniel Staib, Vice President, Senior Economist,  
Economic Research & Consulting,  
Swiss Re, Zurich*

2.45 pm **Corporate Governance Issues in Takaful in the Financial Crisis Era**  
*James A Smith, Executive Director, Financial  
Services, Ernst & Young*

3.30 pm Tea Break

### Panel Discussion: Asia vs Middle East

4.00 pm **Special Panel Discussion on Key Differences in Approaches to Takaful in Asia & Middle East & Western Countries:**  
The Panel will look at the Growth in these Markets and the Various Challenges Faced in Regulation; Culture; Product Innovation; Customer Service; Distribution Dynamics; Shariah Experts; Competition and Co-operation; and Underwriting Challenges

Panelists include:  
*Chakib Abouzaid, Chief Executive Officer,  
Takaful Re Limited*

**Sudan:** *Mohamed El Nur Ahmed,  
General Manager, Watania Co-operative  
Insurance Co Ltd*

**Brunei:** *Ehwana Yahya, Senior Executive  
Officer, Product and Business Development,  
Insurans Islam TAIB*

5.30 pm- Networking Party hosted by B.E.S.T Re  
7.30 pm

### Day Two: 31 March 2009, Tuesday

9.00 am **Special Address: Rating Methodology & The Challenge of Maintaining Solvency in Today's Environment**  
*Moung Mo Lee, General Manager,  
Analytics, A. M. Best Asia-Pacific*

9.45 am **Delivering the Difference: The Cooperative Experience**  
*Sabbir Patel, Senior Vice President  
& Chief Financial Officer,  
International Cooperative and  
Mutual Insurance Federation  
(ICMIF)*

10.30 am Tea Break

11.00 am **Life Aspects of Takaful**  
*Tobias Frenz, Managing Director,  
Family Retakaful,  
Munich Re Retakaful*

11.45 am **Challenges Faced by Takaful Operators: Local vs International Players**  
*Sridharan Nair, Partner,  
PricewaterhouseCoopers*

12.30 pm Lunch

### Panel Discussion: Distribution of Surplus

2.00 pm **Panel on the Challenge of Distribution of Surplus: Is there a Fixed or Dynamic Method of Getting It Right?**

Panelists include:  
*Hassan Scott P Odierno,  
Principal and Actuary,  
Mercer Zainal Consulting Sdn Bhd*  
*James A Smith, Executive Director,  
Financial Services, Ernst & Young*

3.00 pm **Closing Anchor Address: The Dynamics of the Re-takaful Market Today and Its Vision to be a Real Partner to Takaful Operators**

4.00 pm End of Conference  
followed by Closing Tea Break