

## MINUTES OF MEETING CAFS HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE 24 OCTOBER 2024

The first hybrid meeting of the CAFS Healthcare Committee took place on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024, at the Federation of Saudi Chambers and on MS Teams, in presence of 17 participants.

Please find here the presentation made during the meeting:

<https://cafs.org.sa/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024-10-24-Presentation-healthcare-committee.pdf>

It gave way to the following program:

- 9 am – Welcoming speech by the representative of the CAFS
- 9.10 am – Welcoming speech by Dr. Nadia Cheaib, Chairperson of ClinGroup, acting Chair of the CAFS Healthcare Committee
- 9.20 am – Presentation of the proposed development of the CAFS Healthcare Committee by Mr. Guillaume Rebiere, Chief of Staff of the CAFS, including:
  - Objectives of the committee
  - Organisation and governance of the committee
  - Preparation of elections of Co-Chairs
  - Proposition of calendar of future activities and events
- 9.30 am – Open discussion between members of the committee on the proposition of development of the CAFS Healthcare Committee
- 10.30 am – End of meeting and networking coffee-break among participants

Finally, please find here below the key points of the meeting:

### 1. GOVERNANCE OF THE CAFS HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE

Dr. Mohamed Ben Laden, President of the Saudi French Business Council (CAFS) introduced the two co-Chairs of the CAFS Healthcare Committee:

- Dr. Nadia Cheaib, Chairperson of ClinGroup
- Mr. Bassam Hamadeh, Chairman of Bassam Trading Company

The co-Chairs will support CAFS team in steering and animating the committee, and will officially represent the committee with all stakeholders.

## 2. LISTING OF MEMBERS OF THE CAFS HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE

The CAFS will create a consolidated listing of members of the CAFS Healthcare Committee, which will be shared with the members of the committee.

To become an official member of the committee, representatives of companies members of the CAFS **must complete the following online form:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/GhS6vkTg61>

The CAFS will also prepare a catalogue/brochure to present and promote the companies members of the CAFS Healthcare Committee, which will be used for meetings with authorities, delegations, stakeholders, potential partners and so on.

This catalogue will also be used to map the know-how and expertise of CAFS members, in order to focus activities and projects on existing know-how, especially regarding topics discussed with authorities of both countries.

## 3. SUGGESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

During the discussion among participants, the following suggestions have been made regarding the objectives and future activities of the Healthcare Committee:

- Sponsors: Since the CAFS has limited human resources, and cannot provide financial support to the Healthcare Committee, it will be vital to look for sponsors for each of the activities implemented by the CAFS Healthcare Committee.
- Global Health: It has been agreed to focus on organising a large joint operation with French partners (French Embassy, French Healthcare, Business France) during the Global Health 2025 and not on other trade shows. Business France informed the participants that they will launch a French pavilion during Global Health 2025. This project should also give way to preparations meetings with the Saudi MOH and other health institutions, which will help to promote the expertise of CAFS members.
- Mapping of Saudi Healthcare Sector: the committee will work on mapping the Saudi health sector, in order to identify the key players among public organisations and institutions, as well as private groups and companies. The committee will also prepare information on the specifications to register and distribute health equipment and products in Saudi Arabia.
- Identification of French competitive edge: the committee will not only map the expertise of CAFS members, but also identify the specific expertise of French companies operating in the health sector, in order to concentrate on and promote this competitive edge when implementing activities and meeting with authorities

and other stakeholders. As part of the mapping process, the committee will try to identify all Saudi medical personnel who have been trained in France.

- Training and R&D: on the long term, the committee will develop activities to support the implementation of partnerships between France and Saudi Arabia on training programs for doctors and nurses, and for research and development, especially on new molecules and biotechnology, as well as on other topics identified as being a specific French expertise and competitive edge. The committee will also seek French expertise to develop services related to mental health and remote/virtual medicine in Saudi Arabia.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS**

Here are the next steps which the committee will take in the coming months:

- The CAFS will share a form for CAFS members to officially register to the Healthcare Committee. The contacts will then be shared among committee members.
- The CAFS and ClinGroup will create a questionnaire to map the expertise of CAFS members
- Based on the gathered information, the CAFS will prepare a catalogue to present and promote the members of the committee
- The committee will start mapping the Saudi health sector (authorities, public organisations and institutions, private groups, etc.)
- The committee will start mapping the French health sector (partner organisations, schools and universities, private companies) and will identify the French specific expertise and competitive edge
- The committee will work on the organisation of events (webinars, conferences, networking) with the CAFS team