Invites you to a Panel Discussion & Networking Reception on

Assessing the Investment Climate in Iran:
An Overview of the Political, Economic, Legal and Social Conditions

Monday 6 February 2017 at 6.00pm
Pinsent Masons, 30 Crown Place, Earl Street, London EC2A 4ES

Our speakers include:
- The Rt Hon Lord Lamont of Lerwick
- Miss Alia Moubayed
- Mr George Booth
- Miss Ava Zadkhorvash
The discussion will be chaired by Dr Carole Nakhle

RSVP to wie@crystolenergy.com by 1 February 2017
Venue details:

**Pinsent Masons**
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Earl Street
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Closest stations:
**Liverpool Street** 5 mins walk
**Moorgate** 10-15 mins walk

[Google Map Link]
The Rt Hon Lord Lamont of Lerwick

Norman Lamont was a Cabinet Minister under Margaret Thatcher and John Major, and a member of the House of Commons for twenty-five years. He was Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) from 1990 to 1993.

In 1998, he was appointed a member of the House of Lords (the second chamber of the British Parliament). He is a member of the Economic Affairs Committee.

Norman Lamont was Britain’s Chief Negotiator at the Maastricht Treaty and negotiated Britain’s non-membership of the euro, of which he remains a strong opponent and critic.

When he was Chancellor, Norman Lamont’s political advisor was David Cameron and his Parliamentary Private Secretary, William Hague.

In 2008, David Cameron asked Norman Lamont with other former Chancellors to be part of a team to advise him on Britain’s financial problems. As well as being a working Peer, he is a director of a number of financial companies.

He has, in the past, been a director of companies trading with Iran and is currently the Chairman of the British Iranian Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Advisory Board of the Iran Heritage Foundation, a body promoting Iranian culture and art. In 2016, he was appointed as the Prime Minister’s Trade Envoy to Iran.

He is an Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.
Miss Alia Moubayed

Alia Moubayed is the Director of Geo-economics and Strategy at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) based in London.

Alia joined IISS in January 2017 from Barclays Bank where she held responsibility for economic research for the Middle East and North Africa.

She joined Barclays in October 2008 from the World Bank where she worked for six years as a senior economist responsible for research and policy dialogue at the Economic Policy department of the Europe and Central Asia region.

Prior to that, she held research and policy responsibilities in various economic institutions of the Government of Lebanon, including the Central Bank, the Office of the Minister of Economy and Trade, and the Council for Development and Reconstruction over a period of six years.

Alia holds degrees in Economics, Finance and Public Policy from the American University of Beirut and the Ecole Nationale d’Administration (ENA) in France.
Mr George Booth

George specialises in international projects and transactions in the energy sector.

Prior to moving back into private practice, George spent several years as an in-house lawyer at an international oil field services company and then on secondment at an international oil company.

As well as practicing in London, George has lived in the Middle East for nine years and much of his work involves supporting clients in the MENA region. George now splits his time between Dubai and London.

As part of his role George heads the cross-sector Iran practice of Pinsent Masons, which provides support from both the London and Dubai offices and on the ground in Tehran with full Farsi speaking capability.

George has considerable experience acting for investors into Iran in a range of sectors including oil and gas, construction, power, transport, manufacturing, financial services and educational. He is regularly invited to speak at industry conferences and has been quoted in media such as the BBC, Financial Times, the Daily Telegraph, MEED, the National, and Gulf Times on matters pertaining to Iran.
Miss Ava Zadkhorvash

Ava is a senior member of Pinsent Masons’ Iran team in the London office.

She has a deep knowledge of the customs and practice of doing business in Iran. As a British-Iranian national, she has lived and worked in Tehran for over 5 years, working with private as well as state owned entities. Ava is a fluent Farsi speaker.

Ava has served as a private consultant to international state owned and private companies interested in the Iranian market, advising on their market entry and business development strategy in the region, as well as advising on the relevant compliance and due diligence measures which should be adopted. She has worked with several Iranian companies and ministries on some of the country's most important developmental projects to help market the projects on a global scale and to help raise finance for these projects, including; Iran's largest airport terminal, a petrochemical project and a mining project, to name a few.

Ava has a network of connections with governments, intermediaries, ministries and local counsel in a number of Middle East jurisdictions, which enables Pinsent Masons to both spot opportunities for clients and to deliver accurate strategic legal advice to support transactions and projects. She regularly organizes International events and Trade Missions relating to the promotion of Trade and Investment across the Middle East, including; Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Kazakhstan, Dubai and Qatar. She is also a regular contributor to articles regarding the growing investment opportunities in Iran.
Dr Carole Nakhle

Dr Nakhle is the Director and founder of Crystol Energy, an advisory, research and training company in London.

An Energy Economist, she specialises in international petroleum contractual arrangements and fiscal regimes; petroleum revenue management and governance; energy policy, security and investment; and global oil and gas market developments.

With expertise spanning the private sector, government and academia, Dr Nakhle has worked with oil and gas companies (NOCs and IOCs), governments and policy makers, international organisations, academic institutions and specialized think tanks. She is a regular contributor to Geopolitical Intelligence Service on energy matters, a program advisor to the Washington based International Tax and Investment Centre, and is active on the Advisory Board of the Natural Resource Governance Institute.

Dr Nakhle also founded the not-for-profit organisation ‘Access for Women in Energy’ in 2007, with the aim of enhancing opportunities and enriching dialogue within the industry.

She is a respected and regular contributor to the global debate on energy matters, with numerous articles in academic journals, newspapers and magazines to her credit; has reviewed studies, books and reports for leading publishing houses; and is an avid and regular commentator on energy and geopolitics in the international media, in many countries.

She is also the author of two widely acclaimed books: Petroleum Taxation: Sharing the Wealth published in 2008 and re-printed in 2012; and Out of the Energy Labyrinth (2007), co-authored with Lord Howell. She is currently working on a new book: Petroleum Fiscal Regimes and Wealth Management and is the lead author of a new report Investing in Iran Oil and Gas Sector.

Dr Nakhle has worked on projects in more than 40 countries and has been on exploratory visits to the Arctic and North Sea. She is also fluent in Arabic, English and French.