News Release

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

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The Sixth Summit on the Global Agenda Opens: " The solutions lie in partnerships "

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- More than 1,000 thought leaders and experts on the main issues facing the world have gathered in Abu Dhabi
- Global governance is too focused on reacting to crises and is incapable of addressing challenges holistically
- More information about the Summit on the Global Agenda 2013 is available here

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 18 November 2013 – The world ' s biggest brainstorming exercise of thought leaders and experts on the most urgent global issues, the World Economic Forum ' s Summit on the Global Agenda, opened today.

At the opening session, senior officials of the United Arab Emirates, the host government since the first Summit in 2008, told over 1,000 business, government and civil society leaders that the only way to tackle difficult global problems is through cooperation across countries, sectors and stakeholders. " The solutions to the most pressing concerns in the world lie in partnerships, " said HE Sultan Saeed Nasser Al Mansouri, Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates, adding that " we need coordinated movements. " HE Nasser Ahmed AlSowaidi, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (ADDED) agreed. He said: " In uncertain times such as these, the need for greater international cooperation is magnified. Complex questions require coordinated solutions. "

Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, noted that governments, business and civil society working alone cannot address today ' s complex challenges. Existing institutions and mechanisms of international cooperation are unable to shape viable solutions, he observed. " The biggest challenge we have today is the incapability of the system of global governance to take the necessary time and devote the necessary attention to construct our future, " Schwab argued. " We are much too much in a crisis management mode. We have to take a holistic view. We cannot find solutions in departmentalized approaches. "

Among the international experts participating in the three-day Summit, which Abu Dhabi is hosting for the second time, will be Members of the World Economic Forum ' s Network of 86 Global Agenda Councils. The purpose of the Summit is to tap the knowledge and experience of Council Members and other participants to generate insights, ideas and effective and sustainable action plans to address the main risks on the global agenda.

Notes to Editors

The **Host broadcaster** for the Summit is Abu Dhabi Media.

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