



HAMILTON BRADSHAW

James Caan to speak at the Jeddah Economic Forum on Accelerating Regional Entrepreneurship

February 27, 2012

“Beyond Borders - Building Tomorrow's Economies Today” is the theme for this year’s Forum in Jeddah but underlying the conference will be the challenge facing, not just the Middle East, but many global economies – the issue of employment levels.

According to the World Economic Forum, the Middle Eastern & North African (‘MENA’) region will need to respond to the needs of rapidly increasing populations by creating at least 75M jobs up to 2020 and beyond.

James Caan, one of the United Kingdom’s most successful entrepreneurs, an advisor to the UK Government and a panellist on the BBC’s “Dragons’ Den” (produced as “Merchants Den” in Saudi Arabia) will address the forum on promoting entrepreneurship in the region.

Caan comments: “The Middle East has a rich history and culture of trade and entrepreneurialism, one where venture capitalism, now largely viewed as a western concept, originated and helped develop thriving trading nations. As part of the education they receive we need to further encourage young people to think about new business ideas and enhance mechanisms for a venture capital environment to thrive.”

Under the wise leadership of His Royal Highness King Abdullah, Saudi Arabia is already responding to the educational challenge but James will discuss specific measures to promote business to help the private sector grow and generate more jobs for Saudis.

Ends.

Notes for Editors

About James Caan

James Caan is founder and CEO of private equity firm Hamilton Bradshaw (HB) and has been building and selling businesses for 30 years, including the global brands Alexander Mann Group and Humana International. Hamilton Bradshaw now boasts over 30 companies within its portfolio and is ranked in the Top 30 fastest growing recruitment companies in the world. An award winning entrepreneur, Caan is an advisor to the UK Government on new business policies and regulations. His property business, HB Real Estate, specialises in partnering with real estate entrepreneurs to create new property services ventures. One of Caan's recent investments is 90 North Real Estate Partners, of which he is Chairman, an independent investment advisory firm specializing in Shari'ah compliant real estate investments, and focused on protecting and enhancing clients' wealth.

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