**PRESS RELEASE**

**‘Digital RESTORATION’ is the Answer to getting THE**

**global economy back on track**

*The Global Manufacturing & Industrialisation Summit announces a series of digital sessions*

*#GMIS2020 will become the world’s first virtual gathering for the global manufacturing community*

*Fourth Industrial Revolution proves to be an effective tool in restoring lives*

**Hannover, Germany – 30 March 2020**: [The Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit](http://gmisummit.com/) (GMIS), a joint initiative by the [United Arab Emirates](https://www.moei.gov.ae/en/home.aspx) (UAE) Ministry of Energy and Industry and the [United Nations Industrial Development Organization](https://www.unido.org/) (UNIDO), today announced that the third edition of its Summit, [#GMIS2020](https://www.gmisummit.com/gmis-2020/overview/), will be converted into a series of digital sessions, inviting thought-leaders from the global manufacturing community to virtually come together, for the very first time, to discuss, debate and shape the future of the manufacturing sector.

#GMIS2020 was initially planned to take place in April alongside the [Hannover Messe 2020](https://www.hannovermesse.de/en/) in Germany under the theme of #GermanyConnects – inspired by the country’s leadership in connecting the global manufacturing and industrial community with its transformational digital and technological solutions. The digital series was announced in coordination with its co-chairs, and alongside its partner in Germany, [Deutsche Messe](https://www.messe.de/home), following the evaluation of the growing economical and logistical uncertainly surrounding the escalating [Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019).

Reinforcing the physical and digital convergence of Industry 4.0, the ‘#GMIS2020 Digital Series’ will leverage technology to virtually convene a truly global, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder dialogue around issues that are at the heart of the manufacturing sector and the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

**Badr Al-Olama, Head of the Organising Committee for Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit** said: “Our highest priority has always been to arrive at the safest and most practical outcome in light of the current situation while staying true to the vision and mission of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit. The #GMIS2020 Digital Series takes a transformational approach towards ensuring a risk-free environment for participants to engage in shaping the future of manufacturing. As the pandemic sweeps across the world, paralysing many aspects of normal life, attention must now turn to how the Fourth Industrial Revolution can be leveraged to restore our economies and our society, taking us from an era of ‘digital disruption’ to an era of ‘digital restoration’.”

There have been many debates around the disruptive, and in some cases, the destabilsing nature of the Fourth Industrial Revolution with regards to employment, business sustainability, and global prosperity. However, the crisis surrounding the current pandemic is casting a new lens on the power of technology to assess how it can be utilised as a force for global restoration, allowing businesses to continue to operate, providing communities with tools to keep them connected, and restructuring supply chains to overcome the recent disruption to global markets.

Companies such as Lonati SpA, an Italian manufacturing company, has 3D printed ventilator valves to address domestic shortages. Other examples include a robot named ‘Little Peanut’ that is being deployed to deliver food to people who have been quarantined; and Baidu, a Chinese technology company, is using artificial intelligence technology and computing resources to predict the secondary structure of the Covid-19 RNA sequence to help accelerate the development of a vaccine. Technology can also help restore normal business activities through the use of blockchain to securely and remotely sign and exchange documents, or enable workforce training and development, or even process certification and qualification, through widely used digital communication platforms.

As **Badr Al Olama, Head of the Organising Committee for Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit** explains: “History demonstrates that innovation has proven to be an effective tool in solving the world’s toughest challenges time and again, while also being the driving force behind the advancement of humanity and global prosperity. In a world where many discussions are taking place around some of the negative implications of 4IR technologies, it is times like this that we should encourage policymakers to streamline and fast track regulations that allow certain technologies, such as autonomous mobility, to restore many parts of our daily lives and help us overcome unprecedented challenges.”

**Dr. Jochen Köckler, Chairman of the Board of Management of Deutsche Messe AG** said: “As a strategic partner to the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit, Deutsche Messe fully supports the shift towards digital sessions that can continue to gather valuable insights from the global manufacturing community. Reinforcing the #GMIS2020 theme of Germany Connects, we look forward to hosting a digital gathering of global minds.”

Established in 2015, the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit is a global platform that brings together governments, organisations, NGOs, technologists, and investors to discuss, debate and shape the future of manufacturing. The Summit covers topics related to the digital transformation of the manufacturing sector and dives into subjects such as 3D printing, artificial intelligence, robotics, and value chains – discussions that, in today’s world, are more important than ever before.

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**Note to Editors**

Download links available below the press release and images:

**Press Release** – English

**Photo Captions:**

[**Image 1**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/010742a4-eec3-423f-a759-e51e33bfe8a3) – His Highness Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, and Ruler of the Emirate of Dubai at the inaugural edition of Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) in 2017

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/CftfggXGYjQ?t=4>

[**Image 2**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/12ae6f38-a70e-4f63-994e-f0c69eae14fd) (From L to R) – Badr Al-Olama, Head of the Organising Committee for Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit, H.E. Eng. Suhail Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Industry, United Arab Emirates, LI Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and Dr. Jochen Köckler, Chairman of the Board of Management of Deutsche Messe AG signed a strategic partnership between GMIS and Deutsche Messe at the HANNOVER MESSE 2019

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/taysOIZ02gY?t=70>

[**Image 3**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/4f95a24d-3159-452e-93c3-1a4d738c6495) – Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation delivers keynote address at the second Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) in 2019

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/F8TfNm8q938?t=1936>

[**Image 4**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/126d9db2-1608-480c-b01b-a5ebb125bc28) – Alpha Conde, President of Guinea delivers the keynote address at the GMIS launch in 2015

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/Qa-MJ-xXQ-k?t=473>

[**Image 5**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/1dc3a0b5-45ef-46d4-85a9-b9b597d3b390) – Badr Al Olama, Head of the Organising Committee for Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit speaking at the second edition of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit in 2019

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/jgi-HsBE45g?t=1045>

[**Image 6**](https://dmscdn.vuelio.co.uk/publicitem/2f1c5485-737f-422a-8cee-3e8d52427aa2) – Ban Ki-moon, the former Secretary General of the United Nations announcing the launch of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/LiloTmDNceg>

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**About GMIS:**

The Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) was established in 2015 to build bridges between manufacturers, governments and NGOs, technologists, and investors in harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution’s (4IR) transformation of manufacturing to enable the regeneration of the global economy. A joint initiative by the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), GMIS is a global platform that presents stakeholders with an opportunity to shape the future of the manufacturing sector and contribute towards global good by advancing some of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The first two editions of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit were held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in March 2017, and Yekaterinburg, Russia in July 2019, respectively, with each edition welcoming over 3,000 high-level delegates from over 40 countries.