

THARWAT ABOURAYA, VICE PRESIDENT EMERITUS



Is an accomplished business services leader with the passion and will to lead Tharwat's knowledge and experience are broad and deep. He has established small businesses from scratch, designed and led international tours, and directed commercial business for more than 20 years as Regional Director of American Express and Vice President of American Automobile Association of Western & Central New York.

In January 2020, Tharwat was elected President of Baltimore Sister Cities, Inc., a nonprofit 501 c3 representing eight cities affiliated with Baltimore (Alexandria & Luxor, Egypt; Rotterdam, Netherlands; Xiamen, China; Kawasaki, Japan; Changwon, South Korea; Gbarnga, Liberia; Piraeus, Greece. He has also chaired the Baltimore Luxor Alexandria Sister City Committee, including the Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Maryland Virginia Washington, DC Chapter 2016.

In 2019, Tharwat was appointed to the Maryland State Governor's American Middle Eastern Foreign Affairs Commissioner. Tharwat has also recently been selected as a Member of Senior Leadership Montgomery Class of 2021. Earlier he served as a member of the Advisory Board and entrepreneur mentor-coach for Empowered Women International.

As an active member of the International Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, he initiated improved communication strategies outside of IFBA's annual meetings, including a regular digital newsletter and online meetings.

A skilled negotiator, Tharwat is uniquely capable of identifying and nurturing strategic partnerships. He is sensitive to the cultural nuances of doing business domestically or globally. In particular, Tharwat is able to demonstrate a comprehensive view of issues and assess their long term impact in order to focus on results.

He has excelled at business operations, including call-center environments, Profit & Loss management, field marketing, front line motivation and business building. In addition, he understands the competitive forces in the business today, current market trends, as well as today's changing operating environments.

