H.E. Dr. Esam bin Abdullah Alwagait

Director of the National Information Center, SDAIA

His Excellency Dr. Esam Alwagait is the Director of the National Information Center (NIC) at the Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA), at the Excellent rank. Dr. Alwagait previously served as the CEO of the National Digital Transformation Unit and as the Secretary of the National Committee for Digital Transformation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. With over two decades of experience driving digital transformation initiatives, he has significantly contributed to advancing the Kingdom`s digital services, leading multiple national initiatives that have shaped and elevated the country's e-services landscape. His expertise has also been pivotal in developing SDAIA's digital infrastructure.

Dr. Alwagait was honored with the Order of King Abdulaziz of the first class. He earned a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain, in 2011, following a Master's degree in Computer Science from the University of Southern California, USA, in 2006. His academic journey began in 1998 with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, graduating with honors from King Saud University.

Throughout his career, Dr. Alwagait has held several prominent positions:

- **At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:** Served as the Deputy Minister for Technical Affairs.
- **At King Saud University:** Assumed a variety of positions, including an Associate Professor in the College of Computer Science, Dean of E-Transactions and Communications, Manager of the Portal and E-Services Department, and Information Technology Consultant for the Ministry of Education.

In each of these roles, Dr. Alwagait has been instrumental in pioneering groundbreaking advancements in information technology and e-governance. His scholarly contributions include influential research articles published in prominent scientific journals and presentations at international conferences.

His Excellency serves as the chairman or a member of various boards and committees spanning government entities and leading national companies, including the Digital Government Authority, Elm Company, and the Saudi Artificial Intelligence Company (SCAI). His visionary leadership aligns with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, leaving a lasting impact on the Kingdom's technical and digital sectors.