



**Ms. Giselle Aboud**

**Head of Global Marketing**



**Ms. Giselle, Aboud** has a long-standing passion for education with a desire to help students enjoy a holistic education. She recognizes the mental health crisis in today's world that is negatively affecting young people globally. She sees the need to integrate healthcare into the school curriculum so that students can deal with the root issues of their challenges in order to fully immerse themselves into their studies and career plans. With a drive for a global education that is flexible, value based and spiritually strong, Giselle is excited to serve as the Head of Global Marketing for Meridian Academy. She will be working with a group of Country Ambassadors in 2024 starting with Guyana, The Bahamas, Philippines and the United States with many more to follow. She will be targeting those students who are unable to get to a physical location due to sports, responsibilities, health, family care and so forth so that they can enjoy a regionally accredited high school experience. They will also have the option of dual enrollment while with Meridian Academy so that they can start experiencing tertiary education as well as advancing their college credits while completing high school. Upon graduating, they will be equipped to enter the field of mission, work, military or higher education.

Giselle is also the Director for **Cariconnect LLC**, a Business Development and Advocacy Agency, that seeks to utilize the establishment of both their international and regional network, as well as their platform of expertise towards forging key projects and relationships needed to facilitate business to and from the Caribbean and South America. Some of our clients include: OCI Methanol, LNG 21, Morrison Energy/Trinidad Offshore Fabricators (TOFCO), The Guyana Gold Board, Guyana Oil and Gas Support Services (GOGSSI), Demerara Distillers Limited, Guyana Power and Light Incorporated, Natural Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago, Angostura and Carib Brewery Ltd.

She and her team provide services in several aspects of the Oil and Gas, Power, Renewable Energy, and the Finance sector. Our consultants propose to be the bridge between the leadership in government, state and multilateral agencies and the local, regional, and multinational operating and services companies. Through the successful navigation between both sides, they source feasible and profitable opportunities and secure access to International Funding, Joint Ventures, Merger and Acquisitions and the overall growth and diversification of risk for their clients.

Giselle, a Trinidad, and Tobago native, acquired her passion for the energy industry upon recognizing that it was the driving force behind her country's success. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration, in Finance and Marketing from the University of New Brunswick and a Masters in Environmental and Natural Resources Law Studies from the University of Denver-Sturm College of Law.

Her experience in the energy industry dates to 2006 when she joined the Denver, Colorado, office for Kerr-McGee (now Occidental Petroleum), as a Natural Gas Marketing Analyst Intern. A resident of Houston, Texas, she moved to work in downtown Houston, where she became one of the lead internal auditors at Calpine Corporation, implementing new processes and controls on the trading floor. She then plunged into the world of entrepreneurship, forming Zakhem International Consulting alongside the former US Ambassador to Bahrain, Sam Zakhem; where she developed the clientele interested in expanding their business in or seeking investments from the Middle East.

Then in 2010, upon moving to London, UK, Aboud worked with Zenith Bank as a private banker building their book of Africa's ultra-network individuals. She was then handpicked by the BGC Group, to assist in developing their distillate swaps brokerage desk, in London, advising the top diesel traders in the North (ARA) and in the Med (Africa/Middle East). Pleased with her capabilities, her client at the time, Eni Shipping & Trading drafted her back to Houston, to be one of their main physical and financial trading analysts in Crude, Diesel, and Natural Gas. Before founding Cariconnect in early 2017, she spent two years on Wall Street, responsible for the Business Development of the Energy Derivatives desk at the StoneX Group.

On a personal level, Giselle enjoys, Pilates, swimming, singing in church choirs and traveling.