**Susan K. Finston, JD/MPP**

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Susan K. Finston 30+ years of experience in innovative life sciences, including management of legal, public policy and “doing business” issues with expertise in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) and South Asia regions. In addition to strategic alliances and partnering, Susan develops Intellecutal Property (IP) advocacy strategies including, e.g., multilateral adoption of new trade secrecy protections for innovative products in the TransPacific Partnership. Other highlights include: 2010–2105 – Biotech Advisor for the University of Michigan under the US State Department’s Middle East North Africa Economic Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for programs in the UAE, Algeria, Jerusalem, Michigan, and Washington DC.; 2005–2009 – Executive Director and co-founder, American BioIndustry Alliance (dba as Access and Benefit Sharing Alliance or ABSA), negotiating on behalf of Fortune-100 innovative companies in WTO, CBD and WIPO; 2009 – 2018 – CEO, Managing Director and co-founder of Amrita Therapeutics Public Ltd., a microbiome development company in Gujarat, India; 1999–2005 – Associate Vice President, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) in Washington DC, leading the successful multinational industry’s multi-year advocacy on patent reform in advance of the 2005 WTO TRIPS deadline in the MENA region and South Asia (India); and 1988–1999 – Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State with overseas assignments in London, Tel Aviv and Manila. Susan graduated from the University of Michigan in 1986 with a joint J.D./M.P.P. degree. She also holds a B.S. in Philosophy, awarded with High Honors from the University of Michigan Honors College in 1982. She is a member of the Bar in the State of Illinois and the U.S. Supreme Court.