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AUSTRIAN CULTURAL FORUM CAIRO
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ALUMNI – CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INNOVATION
Austrian Cultural Forum Cairo
February 24-25, 2010

Organization:

Austrian Association for the Middle East (ÖEOG) in cooperation with the Austrian Cultural Forum in Cairo

Participants:

Egyptian Alumni of Austrian scholarship programs, main focus on scholarship programs of the Austrian Development Cooperation.

Background

A considerable number of students from Egypt completed their degree at an Austrian University within Austrian scholarship programs. After returning home they work in different branches of the public or private sector, many of them at universities. In the last years the ÖOG organized in cooperation with the respective Austrian Cultural Forums different Alumni meetings in Istanbul and Teheran with a very positive response of the participants. These meetings provided good opportunities for establishing new contacts and for networking, sharing information and ideas, developing cooperation and new projects. This is the first time for us to organize a conference for Egyptian Alumni in Cairo.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes

This conference seeks to provide a framework for the Alumni

- to get into face to face contact with each other and selected experts to gain and exchange information and experiences: concerning their fields of work and (scientific) activities, international cooperation activities and facilities (e.g., EU programs, Austrian institutions, international organizations,...)
- to discuss some selected projects
- to open up new perspectives for innovative solutions (e.g. concerning social and environmental problems and challenges) and for opportunities to collaborate
- to foster dialogue and promote the exchange of ideas
- to promote cooperation, networking and collaboration in (inter)national projects
- to articulate and address needs and problems, recommendations and proposals (e.g. for follow up activities)

Lectures of experts, presentations of selected projects, workshops, discussions and –last but not least - face to face talks during the breaks and the dinner will provide a diversified and interesting program.

PROGRAM

Wednesday February 24, 2010

ACTIVITIES, EXPERIENCES & FUNDING POSSIBILITIES IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- 9:30 am Registration
- 10:00 am Welcome addresses:
Cultural Forum Cairo: **Clemens MANTL** (Director)
Austrian Association for the Middle East (ÖOG): **Theresia LAUBICHLER**
Egypt. Alumni: **Dr. Wafaa EL SADDIK** (Director of the Egyptian Museum Cairo)
- 10:30 am Keynote speech: Higher Education, Science, International Cooperation and how to face the Challenges for a Sustainable and Social Fair Development in the Arab Region (Egypt)
Speaker: **Prof. Dr. Mohsen TAWFIK** (Ain Shams University, Cairo)
- 11:00 am UNCHAIN: University Chairs on Innovation - A network between EU and MEDA countries
Speaker: **Dr. Hani SEWILAM** (Deputy Director – Department of Engineering Hydrology RWTH Aachen University- Germany)
- 11:30 am Coffee Break
- 11:50 Cooperation in Higher Education and Science between Egypt, other Arab Countries and Europe: Current Situation, Funding Possibilities, Challenges and Experiences
Speaker: **Dr. Mohamed Mahdy MARZOUK** (Assistant National Egyptian Coordinator of the EU-Tempus Projects)
- 12:20 pm International Cooperation in Higher Education from the Perspective of the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education: Programs, Visions, and Realities
Speaker: **Zeinab EL-SADR, MBA** (Deputy Head of Networking Unit, Research, Development and Innovation –RDI- Programme)
- 12:50 pm Discussion
- 1:15 pm Lunch
- 2:30 –5:30 pm Workshop I:
Participants will share their experiences and ideas (with reports and discussion on their current activities, (international cooperation) projects and future perspectives, feasibility of their studies in Austria after their return back, needs etc.)
Moderation: **Dr. Hany El-Sayed Abd El-Aziz MADKOUR**, (Director of Project Management Unit, South Valley University, Moderator of E-Learning Tempus projects in Egypt)
- 5:45 pm UNDP: Current Projects and Activities, Needs and Expectations for the Future Concerning Egypt and the Arab Region and Opportunities for Cooperation.
Speaker: **Mounir TABET, MMSc.** (Country Director UNDP Egypt)
- 7 pm Reception at the Residence of the Austrian Ambassador **Dr. Thomas NADER**
12, Ibrahim Nagoib Street, 1st floor, Garden City

Thursday February 25, 2010

IMPULSE FOR INNOVATION AND COOPERATION POSSIBILITIES

- 10:00 am UNIDO: Current Projects and Activities, Needs and Expectations for the Future Concerning Egypt and the Arab Region and Opportunities for Cooperation.
Example: The Egypt National Cleaner Production Center
Speaker: **Hanan EL HADARY, MSc.** (Director of the Egypt National Cleaner Production Center)
- 11:00 am Coffee break
- 11:30 am Concepts and Experiences from Peru
Building up networks on developing projects (e.g. small handicraft enterprises), linkage of economy and culture, international scientific projects and networking with European partners
Speaker: **Dr. Francisco SAN MARTIN BALDWIN** (Alumnus, founder and head of the development organization MINKA, Peru)
- 12:00 am SAM GmbH. - Sustainable Asset Management: How to develop and finance social responsible projects (bottom up projects), cooperation with bilateral organisations like world-bank, EBRD, etc., cooperation possibilities for Alumni.
Speaker: **DI Asu ERGUELER** (Alumnus, founder and director of the organisation SAM GmbH), **Mag. Gerhard SABATHIEL** (General Manager and Member of the Board, Finance Expert of SAM)
- 12:30 pm Discussion
- 1 pm Lunch
- 2-4:30 pm Workshop II
with selected lecturers about developing (new) projects, networking, international cooperation etc.
Moderation: **Prof. Mohamed Tawfic AHMED** (Suez Canal University)
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. Summing up of the results, findings, wishes (such as follow-up activities), recommendations
- 5:00-5:30 pm Coffee break
- 5:30-6:15 pm Plenary meeting: presentation and discussion of the results and summary
Chair: **Prof. Mohamed Tawfic AHMED** (Suez Canal University)
- 6:15 pm Feedback and closing of the conference
- 7 pm Farewell Dinner
Taboula Restaurant, 1 Latin America Str., Garden City, Tel. 002 02 27925261

LECTURERS AND MODERATORS

Mohamed Tawfic AHMED, Prof. Dr.

Dr. Mohamed Tawfic Ahmed is professor of environmental sciences and director of Environmental Impact Assessment Unit, Suez Canal University, Faculty of Agriculture in Ismailia, Egypt. His research interest focuses on pesticide toxicology, and environmental monitoring of persistent organic pollutants in various environmental matrices, with a lot of international publications. He has contributed in a variety of national and international research programmes that dealt with wastewater management, sustainable development, environmental monitoring, and environmental impact assessment. He is also a reviewer and editorial board member of important international professional journals.

Professor Tawfic Ahmed is a senior consultant to UNDP, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Environment, Egypt. He was a visiting professor at the University of Portsmouth, England and the University of Manchester, England and received his Ph.D. from Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London, 1976.

Hanan EL HADARY, Eng., MSc.

Eng. Hanan El Hadary is the director of the Egypt National Cleaner Production Center (ENCPC) since July 2005 up till now. The ENCPC is supported by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the United Nations for Industrial Development Organizations (UNIDO).

Eng. El-Hadary has long standing experience in the field of environmental protection and Cleaner Production and worked for EEAA since August 1999 till June 2005 occupying different posts; Project Manager of Egyptian Pollution Abatement Project, Director of the Industrial Unit, and the National Focal Point for the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (RAC/CP) MAP. She was also the driving force behind the elaboration and approval of the National Strategy for Cleaner Production for Egypt, adopted in May 2004.

Eng. Hanan has a MSc degree in Environmental Engineering from the American University in Cairo (AUC) in 1997.

Wafaa Taha EL-SADDIK, PhD

Currently Director General of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo and Director General of the Exhibitions Abroad Department, Supreme Council of Antiquities. Furthermore President of the Children's Alliance for Traditions and Social Engagement/ C.A.T.S. International. University degrees in Egyptology and Archeology from Cairo University, PhD degree from Vienna University. During her professional career she was (Assistant) Inspector and Director of different important international excavations in Egypt, since 1984: member of the EAO High Committee, Computer and Information Committee, and Committee of Museums and International Exhibitions; also Member of the National Advisory Board Councils of Egypt.

Teaching experiences for 20 years in different Universities and as lecturer or discussion moderator in various international conferences. She organized also a number of international seminars for Museum Education in Cairo and has frequently been invited speaker for audiences of interested laypersons at museums both in Europe, North America and Asia. During the recent years appointed to membership in various important work related committees and in the Supreme Council of Culture at the Ministry of Culture.

Wafaa Taha El-Saddik also received different professional and humanitarian national and international awards and honors (last the Dedication Award for Cultural Exchange from the government of China, which is the highest award given by the Chinese government in the field of cultural exchange) and can show an extensive number of publications.

Zeinab EL-SADR, MBA

Deputy Head of Networking Unit (RDIN) at the Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Programme. RDI Programme is an EU funded Programme implemented at the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research aiming at enhancing research and innovation in the Egyptian landscape.

The RDI Network (RDIN) is a network of focal points at various Egyptian universities and research institutes (currently 42 focal point) working on the dissemination and promotion of EU funded programs for research.

Ms. El-Sadr is also Egypt National Contact Point for Health and Environment in FP7. Ms. El-Sadr originally is a biochemist holding a master degree in Business Administration.

She has participated in many FP6 projects (EUROMEDANet2, ERAMED, Promedaccess, Food_N-Co) and currently work package Co-Leader in Health NCP Net project and assistant Coordinator of SHERACA (Egypt Bilat project).

Asu ERGÜLER, DI

General Manager and Member of the Board, has overall management responsibilities for all business aspects of SAM. In particular he focuses on competitiveness and good governance of SAM, corporate responsibility, business ethics, international relations, leadership and future trends.

His key responsibilities also include all engineering aspects of SAM. Work experience in Latin America, Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa.

After completing Bachelors and Masters Degree from the Technical University of Vienna, he began his career in the area of environmental management with a special focus on sustainable development. He consulted to private sector and governments on development issues, climate change. Prior to his present position he was general manager of an environmental and energy consulting company for almost 10 years specialising in clean energy investments in the emerging markets. He is a frequent contributor at leading international organizations around the world especially on topics such as challenges of economic development, poverty alleviation, globalisation, global fight against hunger, climate change and bottom of pyramid projects.

Hany El-Sayed Abd El-Aziz MADKOUR, PhD

Currently Director of the Project Management Unit- South Valley University - Aswan branch and Assistant Professor at the Civil Engineering Department. Moderator of E-learning TEMPUS projects in Egypt and Evaluator for different Tempus programs. He is also experienced in the development of Teaching/Training Tools to promote Modern Design Skills for Electrical Eng. Students. Lectures in Project Management, Research Methods, Writing Research and Project Proposals, Stress Management and Team Work.

Gerhard SABATHIEL, Mag.

General Manager and Member of the Board, has overall management responsibilities for all business aspects of SAM. His key responsibilities also include all financial aspects of SAM and financial support for SAM customers. Gerhard Sabathiel has had business experience for more than twenty years in different roles and sectors with a strong focus on the international financial markets. He completed his court service and worked for Freshfields as a lawyer.

After serving as a Managing Director for an international Trading Company spending most of his time in North Africa and the Middle East he moved to Raiffeisen Banking Group in Austria, where he had the Position of Head of International Division with a strong focus on Central- and Eastern Europe. Additionally he was Member of the Supervisory Board of Raiffeisenbank in Prague and the Raiffeisen Office in Italy.

Prior to joining SAM he had responsibility for the Western Union International Risk Management covering more than 200 countries with a global team from South America to Australia. Last but not least he was a Member of the Board of Western Union International Bank. He is well recognized as a speaker at various events covering mainly financial topics.

Francisco SAN MARTÍN BALDWIN, Mag. Dr.

President of the development organization MINKA (Peru). Master and PhD Degree from the University of Salzburg in Political Sciences. Main topics: Clusters, Networks of small enterprises, value chains, regional competitive capacity. He is well experienced in the transformation of development projects into networks of small enterprises, clusters and territorial development. Researcher and Consultant. Author of different publications and research works, recently *Networks of Territories and Firms* (2008). Professor at the Postgraduate School of the Pacific University in Lima (Peru), coordinator of the international training course: *Globalization and Competitiveness* in cooperation with the German Institute of Development Policy.

Assistant chairman of the Commission Brandt in cooperation with the World University Service in Germany.

Hani SEWILAM, M.Sc., PhD

Deputy Director of the Department of Engineering Hydrology at the RWTH Aachen University in Germany. Amongst others manager for 5 European founded projects in different Engineering fields (11 countries and more than 20 universities are involved) and team leader in various other projects. He develops and carries out many capacity building programs for Universities in the Middle East in the framework of European founded projects and he shows also a number of administrative activities.

University Degrees in Water Engineering from Zagazig University, Egypt, (Diploma). Southampton University, UK (M.Sc.) and RWTH Aachen, Germany (PhD with distinction in Water Resources Management).

In the nineties he worked as a Water Engineer at the Ministry of Water Resources in Cairo/Egypt. Coordinator and team member in different international projects (UNDP&NWRC, FAO etc.).

Currently activities in establishing a UNESCO Chair on Water Resources and Climate Change in collaboration with the Oman GuTech (affiliated with the RWTH Aachen University). Experienced in initiating project ideas, designing the project, building consortiums and writing project proposals according to donor requirements.

Various international relations activities like Consultant for SEKEM Development Foundation to support the establishment of Heliopolis University in Egypt, Founder and Coordinator of the German Egyptian Network of

Scientists, Regional Coordinator of the World Academy for Young Scientists (2006-2008), etc. Teaching experiences in 100s of lectures, presentations in workshops, conferences and other events, and experiences also in curriculum development.

He is also one of the 30 experts from all over the world selected in the framework of the “UN Decade Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014” and founder of the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development in Cairo. Consulting activities as research and education expert for different organizations (e.g. Austrian Research Promotion Agency, European Commission, TEMPUS Programme etc.). Since 2007 coordinating the activities of establishing “*University Chair on Innovation*” in the Middle East. Respectable number of publications.

Mounir TABET, MMSc.

Mr. Mounir Tabet has been the Country Director of UNDP Egypt since March 2007. Before he was the Senior Programme Advisor in the Regional Bureau for Arab States in UNDP headquarters in New York and responsible for eight countries. In this capacity he guided the development of new country programmes. From June 2002 until June 2003 Mr. Tabet provided substantive and managerial leadership for UNDP’s Saudi Arabia Country Office where, in his capacity as DRR, he initiated the first initiatives on poverty eradication and on local governance. He led internal discussions and helped produce the first Saudi Arabia National Human Development and the Millennium Development Goals Reports.

Before he assumed different responsibilities on behalf of UNDP, e.g. he was Senior Technical Adviser in the Bureau for Policy Development, he supervised and conducted a number of substantive studies on decentralized governance issues and represented UNDP in the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG with the WB, IMF, WTO, UNCTAD and ITC) on trade issues for LDCs. Mounir Tabet was member of the advisory board of the Virtual Development Academy (UNDP’s in-house training institution) on organizational learning issues and Knowledge Management.

Prior to joining UNDP, Mr. Mounir Tabet worked with the North South Institute and the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa, taught briefly at the University of Ottawa and undertook many consultancies for UN agencies. He completed a Masters degree in Public Administration at Harvard University and he also holds a Masters degree in Economics from the University of Ottawa – Canada.

Mohsen Abdel-Hamid TAWFIK, Prof., PhD

Mohsen Abdel-Hamid Tawfik is Professor Emeritus at Institute of Environmental Studies and Research, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. At last he was UNESCO representative and director of the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Communication and Information in New Delhi, India. Before he held different functions and professional posts at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. E.g.: Senior director, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of Egypt to UNESCO, etc.

He was also Chairman-Founder of the “Think Tank of the G77” and member of the bureaus of G77, as well as Dean-Founder of the Institute of Environmental Studies and Research at the Ain-Shams University in Cairo; furthermore Director-Founder of the Unified Centre for Information and Decision Support for Education and Director-Founder of the Centre for Information and Higher Education Reform. He was also Cultural Counselor at the Egyptian Embassy in Moscow, USSR. 1985 he became Professor of Electrical Engineering at the Ain-Shams University, in Cairo. His PhD he took in Electrical Engineering at the Moscow Power Engineering Institute, 1975 in Moscow (USSR).

Mohsen Abdel-Hamid TAWFIK shows furthermore rich international expertise in different fields, e.g. as high-level representative of Egypt in different high-range international conferences and meetings (concerning education, environment, social and sustainable development) and he has also been invited as a keynote speaker on innovation in education and education reform, especially in developing countries, in many international conferences and events since 1995.

He is Author of 7 books in the fields of sustainable development, new technologies and education, and of more than 100 studies and articles in the fields of sustainable development, education and learning, new technologies, environment, globalization, and futurology which were published in Egypt, different Arab countries and some European countries, as well as by UNESCO (e.g. Environmental Ethics, 1991) and ALECSO. Additionally he is author and/or co-author of 30 scientific papers in the field of analysis and optimal control of Electrical Power Systems.