



THE ARAB INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM



**With the valued co-operation of
The League of Arab States**

hosts the

THIRD ANNUAL AIWF CONFERENCE 2004

**Women in the Arab World:
Partners in the Community and on the World Stage**

المرأة في العالم العربي
شريك في التنمية وشريك في التواصل مع المجتمع الدولي

6-9 June 2004

**At the Headquarters of
The League of Arab States
Cairo, Egypt**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**The Third Annual AIWF Conference
Working with the Valued Co-operation of the League of Arab States
Women in the Arab World: Partners in the Community and on the World Stage
6-9 June 2004
at the League of Arab States, Cairo**

SUNDAY 6 JUNE

6.30pm **OFFICIAL CONFERENCE RECEPTION**
Hosted by Sir Derek Plumbly, British Ambassador,
and Lady Nadia Plumbly

MONDAY 7 JUNE – CONFERENCE DAY ONE

10.00am **CONFERENCE OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION**
Welcome and AIWF Message to the Third Annual Conference
Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Chairman, Arab International Women's Forum

Keynote Address by Guest of Honour
Her Excellency Mrs Suzanne Mubarak
First Lady of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Special Address by
His Excellency Mr Amre Moussa
Secretary General, The League of Arab States

11.00am **Special Addresses by Honoured Guest Speakers**

HE Zahira Kamal, Minister of Women's Affairs, Palestine
Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, Member of the European Parliament, Brussels

12.15 pm **PLENARY SESSION 1:**

PARTNERSHIPS IN PUBLIC LIFE

Partnerships in public life and in the private sector are increasingly more prevalent in western society. This session will explore two main topics: Why is it important to increase the participation of women in public life? And, how do women develop the necessary partnerships to succeed?

Guest Speakers:

Dr Raja Khuzai, Member of the Governing Council, Iraq
HE Dr Rowiadah Al Maaitah, Vice President, Secretary General, National Council of Family Affairs, Senator/The Upper House of Parliament, Jordan

Moderator/Guest Speaker:

Dame Rennie Fritchie OBE, Commissioner for Public Appointments, UK

2pm Networking Lunch

3.30pm **PLENARY SESSION 2:**

PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

In a world without borders, this session will explore women's growing role in the private sector, the challenges they still face and the best practices to operate in a global economy. For international participants, Arab panellists will provide an insight of how to operate and how to do business in the region.

Guest Speakers:

Ms Nadereh Chamlou, Senior Advisor, Middle East and North Africa Region, The World Bank, Washington DC

Dr Linda Yueh, Department of Economics, London School of Economics, UK

Mr Andrew Vaughan, Regional Technical Director, Shell Middle East, UAE

Ms Zeena Tamimi, Brand Manager Arabian Peninsula, Procter & Gamble, Saudi Arabia

Mr Saad Toma, Vice President for Integrated Technology Services, IBM, France

Moderator/Guest Speaker:

Mrs Julie Mellor, Chair, Equal Opportunities Commission, UK

5.30pm Adjournment

8.30pm **CONFERENCE RECEPTION AND OFFICIAL DINNER**
Grand Ball Room, J.W. Marriott Hotel
Mirage City, Cairo

TUESDAY 8 JUNE – CONFERENCE DAY TWO

10.00am **PLENARY SESSION 3:**

BUILDING LOCAL COMMUNITIES: PARTNERSHIPS IN CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society is now well-established as the third pillar in society. Guest speakers will take a look at partnerships necessary to build local communities. This session will explore women as community leaders and their relationships in civil society. This session will also showcase the diversity of Arab society.

Guest Speakers:

Mrs Amani Kandil, Executive Director, Arab Network for NGOs, Egypt

Ms Fatin Bundagji, Director, Women Empowerment & Research Unit, Jeddah Chamber of Commerce, Saudi Arabia

Dr Elizabeth Plum, Programme Director, Danish School of Public Administration, Denmark

Mrs Soumaya Belhabib, Vice President, CHAML Association, Morocco

Moderator/Guest Speaker:

Dr Heba Handoussa, Advisor to the Economic Research Forum for Arab Countries, Egypt

12.30pm Networking Lunch

2.00pm **PLENARY SESSION 4:**

**REACHING OUT TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY:
PARTNERSHIPS EXTENDED**

Civil society, public life and the private sector meet at international levels. Speakers will discuss initiatives arising from the Arab world, the G-8 nations, and at the international levels. This session will explore Arab and international partnerships.

Guest Speakers:

Ms Charlotte Ponticelli, Sr Co-ordinator, International Women's Issues, US Department of State, USA

Ms Fifi Benaboud, Senior Advisor to the Executive Director, North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Portugal

Ms Deborah Gomes, Canadian International Development Agency, Canada

Hon Carolina Mayeur, Deputy Director, Co-operation with Mediterranean Countries and East Europe, Spain

Moderator/Guest Speaker:

Dr Wadouda Badran, Secretary General, Arab Women Organisation, Cairo

4.00pm

PLENARY SESSION 5:

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS -- A WORLD WITH EXPERIENCE

This crucial session will highlight the very many women's programmes in international organisations. The League of Arab States, the European Commission, the Commonwealth, Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation, OECD, and the United Nations are just a few of the international organisations which impact on local, regional, and international programmes. This session compares and contrasts and finds the similarities between agencies.

Guest Speakers:

Dr Abla Ibrahim, Head, Department of Family Affairs, Women and Children, League of Arab States, Cairo

Dr Rafia Obaid Ghubash, President, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain

Dr Salma Galal, Gender Mainstreaming Technical Officer, World Health Organisation, Switzerland

Ms Alexandra Hall-Hall, Special Advisor to the Assistant Secretary and Manager, Women's Pillar of the Middle East Partnership Initiative, US State Department, USA

Ms Bineta Diop, Executive Director, Femmes Africa Solidarité, Switzerland

Moderator/Guest Speaker:

Ms Hanifa Mezoui, Chief Non-governmental Organizations Section, United Nations, USA

5.30pm

Conference Summary and Closing Remarks

8.30pm

Sound & Light Show at the Sphinx

Followed by a Reception, Giza Plateau

Hosted by His Excellency Dr Mamdouh El Beltagui, Minister of Tourism

AIWF Conference

P.O. Box 36114, London SW7 1YB, United Kingdom

Telephone / Fax: + 44 20 7581 2186

info@aiwfonline.com / www.aiwfonline.com

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