



ARAB INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S FORUM  
المنتدى العربي الدولي للمرأة

## **PRESS RELEASE Mrs Sarah Brown hosts AIWF at 10 Downing Street**

Mrs Sarah Brown hosted an Evening Reception at 10 Downing Street on Tuesday 12 February 2008 in honour of the Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF). The reception was attended by Mrs Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Chairman, the Board and Members of AIWF, their global partners and representatives of business, the corporate sector and leading Arab and international academic, economic and trade institutions.

The Reception was held to acknowledge the role that AIWF plays in building bridges, building business, through the initiatives it offers that promote economic development, international understanding, prosperity and peace. Groundbreaking AIWF programmes identify Arab women, as an important economic resource with a significant role to play in the vibrant growing private sector, and the realisation of their potential being a major force for change.

In her welcome, Mrs Sarah Brown said "I want to congratulate the Arab International Women's Forum for raising public awareness of the need to bring more women into the economic life of the Arab region. The Forum's work has allowed women to exchange knowledge and experience, develop their business potential and to take up positions of responsibility in the public arena.

"The 2007 programme Globalisation, Trade and Entrepreneurship, through which the Forum promoted links between the Arab region, the UK and the international sector, has been particularly important in creating an environment for collaboration, giving women the support and encouragement needed to overcome remaining barriers and challenges to their full equality and opportunity."

Mrs Al Kaylani said "AIWF is proud to be recognised as an organisation that is at the forefront of effecting change, promoting the role and potential for women, which is vital for growth and stability and developing strategies that create jobs, catalyse economic development and foster social cohesion".

Ends

12 Feb 2008

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#### Notes for Editors

The Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF), set up in 2001 and registered in London, is a unique network connecting Arab and international women in key positions in business and professions and in community leadership, public and political life. AIWF provides a voice for Arab women, promoting cultural diversity and creating greater public awareness of the challenges of bringing more women into the economic life of the region but also to the huge advantages of making it happen.