



Under the Patronage of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Lebanon

Arab Employment Forum
A Jobs Pact for Recovery and Growth

Metropolitan Palace Hotel
19-21 October 2009
Beirut, Lebanon

Day 1 – Monday, 19 October

- 10:00-12:00 Group meetings
- Governments' meeting (*Dubai Hall*)
 - Workers' meeting (*The Bray*)
 - Employers' meeting (*Meera Dina*)
- 13:00-14:45 *Financial settlement for officials sponsored by the Forum (Mezzanine Business Center)*
- 14:00-15:00 *Registration*
- 15:00-16:15 **Welcome remarks and opening plenary (*Dubai Hall*)**
- Juan Somavia, Director-General, International Labour Organization*
Ahmed Luqman, Director-General, Arab Labour Organization
Imad Chehab, General Secretary, General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries
Hassan Djemam, General Secretary, International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions
H.E. Khaled Qabbani, Representative of the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Minister of State
Moderator: Nada Al-Nashif, Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for the Arab States, ILO
- 16:15-16:45 *Coffee Break*
- 16:45-17:30 **Keynote address – Employment trends at the global and regional levels (*Dubai Hall*)**
- José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Director, Employment Sector, ILO*
Talal Abu- Ghazaleh, UN Global Alliance on ICT and Development – Chair, TAGorg
Moderator: Charles Dan, Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa, ILO
- 17:30-19:15 **High-level tripartite roundtable - Decent work responses to the financial crisis (*Dubai Hall*)**
- H.E. Aisha Abdel Hadi Abdel Ghani, Minister of Manpower and Migration, Egypt*





H.E. Ghazi Shbeikat, Minister of Labour, Jordan
H.E. Ahmad Majdalani, Minister of Labour, Palestinian Authority
Abdeljelil Bedoui, General Union for Tunisian Workers, Tunisia
Abdullah Dahlan, International Organization of Employers
Moderator: Ziad Abdel Samad, Executive Director, Arab NGO Network for Development

20:30 *Reception hosted by the Government of Lebanon (Grand Serail)*
(Transportation departs from hotel at 19:45)

Day 2 – Tuesday, 20 October

9:00- 9:45 **Navigation session - Introduction and brief overview of the thematic sessions (Dubai Hall B)**

Maurizio Bussi, ILO
Mohamed Lamine Fares, Hussein Al Dimasi, ALO
Zafiris Tzannatos, ILO Consultant

10:00-13:00 *Financial settlement for officials sponsored by the Forum*
(Mezzanine Business Center)

10:00-12:00 **Parallel sessions 1 and 2**

1. Decent employment, sustainable growth and recovery: policies and institutions *(Dubai Hall A)*

Chair: H.E. Alison Manani Magaya, Minister of Labour and Administrative Reform, Sudan
Azita Berar Awad, ILO
Bayan Harb, ALO
Khalifa Matar, Federation of United Arab Emirates Chambers of Commerce and Industry, UAE
Ahmine Chaffir, General Union of Algerian Workers, Algeria
Lahcen Achy, Carnegie Middle East Center, Lebanon

2. Improving management of labour migration, employment and development *(Meera Dina)*

Chair
Ibrahim Awad, ILO
Iman Zakaria, Ministry of Manpower and Migration, Egypt
Mustapha Tlili, International Trade Union Confederation
Sayyed Salman Mahfoudh, General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions, Bahrain
Baqer Al-Najjar, University of Bahrain, Bahrain

12:00-12:30 *Coffee Break*





12:30-14:30

Parallel sessions 3 and 4

**3. Building adequate social protection systems and protecting people
(Dubai Hall A)**

*Chair: H.E. Ahmad Majdalani, Minister of Labour, Palestinian Authority
Alejandro Bonilla García, Christina Behrendt, ILO
Jameel Humaidan, Ministry of Labour, Bahrain
Zaki Al Ayoubi, Jordan Chamber of Industry
Ghassan Ghosn, Lebanese General Workers Union (CGTL), Lebanon
Mohamed Chaabane, Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes de Sécurité Sociale
(CRESS), Tunisia*

**4. Strengthening respect for international labour standards and
workers' rights (Meera Dina)**

*Chair: H.E. Mohammad Mohsen Al-Afasi, Minister of Social Affairs and
Labour, Kuwait
Kamran Fannizadeh, Abdoullah Zouhair, ILO
Rida Kaysouma, ALO
Abdo Mohammed al-Hakimi, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs,
Yemen
Abdel Sattar Mansour, International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions*

14:30-16:00

Lunch Break (Venezia Restaurant Metropolitan Hotel)

16:00-18:00

Parallel session 5 and 6:

**5. Social dialogue and tripartism for crisis analysis and response (Dubai
Hall A)**

*Chair: Roger Nasnas, Economic and Social Council, Lebanon
Tayo Fashoyin, ILO
Rashid Khedim, ILO consultant
Lama Al-Sulaiman, Jeddah Chamber of Commerce, Saudi Arabia
Mohamed Mounji Amami, Workers' Representative*

**6. Promotion of sustainable enterprises for job creation and retention
(Meera Dina)**

*Chair: H.E. Ibrahim Omar al-Hugari, Minister of Technical Education and
Vocational Training, Yemen
Rania Bikhazi, ILO
Abdel Karim Kebiri, ILO consultant
Ihab Mokablah, ALO
Fadi Abboud, Association of Lebanese Industrialists, Lebanon
Abubakr El-Siddig, Sudan Workers' Trade Union Federation, Sudan
Fadel Al Akel, Yemeni General Federation of Workers Trade Union, Yemen
Ramzi Hafez, InfoPro, Lebanon*

20:00

Reception hosted by the ILO (Habtoor Hotel 31st floor)





Day 3 – Wednesday, 21 October

- 9:00-10:30 Group meetings
- Governments' meeting (*Dubai Hall*)
 - Workers' meeting (*The Bray*)
 - Employers' meeting (*Meera Dina*)
- 10:00-13:00 *Financial settlement for officials sponsored by the Forum (Mezzanine Business Center)*
- 10:45-12:00 **Plenary – Feedback from the thematic sessions (*Dubai Hall*)**
- Yousef Qaryouti, ILO*
Mohamed Lamine Fares, ALO
Rapporteurs
- 12:00-12:30 *Coffee Break*
- 12.30- 13:30 **Closing Panel - A Jobs Pact for the crisis and beyond: Priorities for effective employment policies and Decent Work for Arab countries (*Dubai Hall*)**
- Nada Al-Nashif, Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for the Arab States, ILO*
Ahmed Luqman, Director-General, Arab Labour Organization
José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Director, Employment Sector, ILO Tripartite Representation
- 13:30 *Lunch (The Exchange Grill Habtoor Hotel)*

