



Opening (r t-l): Rashid M. Rashid, Minister of Trade & Industry Egypt / Amr Moussa, Secretary General Arab League / Ahmed About Gheit, Minister for Foreign Affairs Egypt

### Report of the Secretary General:

## Participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arab Economic, Social and Development Summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt 18 – 19 January 2011

#### Participants:

- **Officials & Politicians:** Eight Arab Ministers of the resorts Finance & Economy
- **Investment Authorities / Associations:** Arab Association for Textile Industry, Arab Businessmen Council and others
- **Federations & Chambers:** More 10 Chambers represented
- **Media:** Prominent Arab Media Broadcasting like Al-Jazeera, MBC, Al-Arabiya, Arabic CNBC
- **Businesspeople & Companies:** over 60 people representing some 40 companies

#### Program: See enclosure

*“The Second Arab Economic, Social and Development Summit resumed activities with the participation of several kings, presidents, princes and heads of the participating Arab delegations. The Summit discussed means of intensifying the joint Arab work to face the economic challenges, in addition to combating poverty and unemployment through integrating joint Arab developmental efforts. It also discussed means of pushing the comprehensive economic and social development forwards through linking land, sea and railway transportation, electricity connection and establishing networks for transferring gas and oil between the Arab countries.”* [quote from Day Press / DP-News, see [link](#)].

**AACC Secretary General Mouddar Khouja** attended the Second Arab Economic, Social and Development Forum in Sharm El Sheikh representing the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce and its Vice-President Commercial Counsellor Mr. Nabil Kuzbari.



Audience of the first Session of the Conference

On **Tuesday, 18 January 2011**, SG Khouja participated at a meeting with **high officials and representatives**, among them

- **H.E. Minister Lamia Assi**, Minister of Economy and Trade, Syria
- **H.E. Minister Adnan Kassar**, President General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture in Arab Countries
- **H.E. Mr. Al-Tuwajri**, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs of the Arab League
- **H.E. Brigadier ATD. Mohammad Al-Mogati**, Assistant Secretary General for the Security of Tourism at the League of Arab States – Arab Tourism Organization
- **H.E. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Jassim Al-Thani**, President of Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- **H.E. Khalil Ben Abdallah El-Khanji**, President of Oman Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- **H.E. Senator Nael Al-Kabariti**, Chairman of Jordan Chamber of Commerce
- **H.E. Mr. Ahmed al-Wakeel**, President of the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce, Vice-President of General Union of Arab CoC
- **H.E. Dr. Imad Shehab**, Secretary General of General Union of Arab CoC
- **H.E. Mr. Ahmad Hashem Al-Zughayar**, President of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce
- **H.E. Dr. Suleiman Al-Herbish**, Director General Opec Fund for International Development (OFID)
- **H.E. Hossam O. Khalil**, Director – General Secretary Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development



R-t-l: Mr. Al Bahrani , Omani CoC / SG Dr. Alaa Ismat, Egyptian CoC / President Ahmed Al-Wakeel, Fed. Egyptian CoC / SG Khouja AACC / Pres. ElKhanji ,Omani CC / Mr. Nahhas, CEO Nahhas Group / Sheick Khalifa Al Thani ,President Qatari CoC / Senator Al-Kabariti, President Jordan CC / Ayman Kahf , Syrian Journalist / Eng. Dr. Abdulrahim?, Member of the Egyptian Parliament;

During the meeting and ongoing talks, SG Khouja took the opportunity to introduce to the high-level participants

- the newly elected **Executive Bureau of the AACC** with President Dr. Richard Schenz as its new President and Dr. Haselsteiner as the Vice-president; an invitation for Presidents Dr. Schenz KR. Kuzbari and Dr. Haselsteiner to join the upcoming meeting of presidents of the Federal Chambers and Joint Chambers related to the General Union of Arab Chambers, its Federations at the beginning of March in Jordan was voiced by Senator Nael Al-Kabariti, Chairman of the Jordan Chamber of Commerce;
- the **AACC Magazine SHARAKA** and to invite the audience to join the project with interviews and participation;
- the AACC **International Economic Informational Platform (IEIP)** project, an Internet Platform to connect and interlink the services and information of related Chambers of Commerce;
- the **Arabic Supermarket project** by Vice-President Comm. Couns. Nabil Kuzbari / Vimpex as Mr. Kuzbari's authorized representative.

A special discussion was considered with **H.E. Dr. Imad Shehab**, Secretary General of the General Union of Arab Chambers, to extend the AACC's office area, country responsibility and **activity area on Eastern European countries**. This idea will be further discussed at following meetings with the General Union.

At the end of the discussion, SG Khouja handed over all project documents, the AACC Magazine SHARAKA and additional information on the AACC to all Their Excellencies present at the meeting.

As a **special AACC member service** provided for the AACC member company **Ramses 2** (Mr. Bernhard Knorr), SG Khouja handed over some project document to **H.E. Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani**, Chairman of the Qatar Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and to H.E. Mr. **Mohammad al-Misry**, Former President of the Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce.

Later at the same day, SG Khouja took part at the meeting with representatives of the World Bank and a number of high-level businesspeople.



SG Khouja at the Business Dinner with H.E. Minister Adnan Kassab,  
President General Union of Arab CoC Industry & Agriculture

On **Wednesday, 19 January 2011**, SG Khouja had individual meetings with

- Mr. Abdulaziz Nasser Alsorayai, Board Member of Alsorayai Group, the World's 7<sup>th</sup> largest producer of textiles, rugs, carpets and furniture to discuss potential projects and Austro-Arab cooperation;
- Mr. Ahmed M. Al-Sheikah, Chairman of Orient International for Commercial & Industrial Business and Board Member of the Department for Environment, for potential cooperation and projects in passive house construction.
- Dr. Imad Shehab, Secretary General of the General Union of Arab Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

#### **Media, Visibility & Network:**

During his trip, SG Khouja gave live interviews for the following TV-channels, always representing the AACC and its portfolio:

- Live interviews for **MBC**, streamed on 18 January 2011;
- Live interview for **Dunya Satellite**, streamed on 18 January 2011
- Interview for **Bursat wa-Aswaq** (Arabic Weekly) on 18 January 2011
- Network, contact and interchange of business cards with some 25 businessmen/companies



SG Khouja at an interview for Dunya Satellite TV, and representing the AACC

*The AACC would like to acknowledge the ideal and material support of its Vice-president KommR. Kuzbari which make the participation at this conference possible*