

**Cooperation between Saudi E-Government Programme "Yesser" and AACC:
Visit of Mr. Ali AL SOMA, Advisor to the Saudi Minister of Communications and IT in Vienna**

9-11 May 2012



At the Austrian Federal Chancellery

From the 9th to the 11th May 2012, Mr. Ali AL SOMA, Advisor to the Minister of Communications and IT in Saudi Arabia and Director General of the Saudi E-Government Programme "YESSER", and his esteemed delegation came to Vienna, Austria. The delegation consisted of Mr. Mustafa KHAN, Director of the Centre of Excellence for Research & Development, and Mr. Abdulkareem AL ZUMAI, Director of Media, PR & Awareness. The Saudi Arabian delegation came to Vienna primarily in order to talk about the Austrian technology in the field of e-government, which ranks among the best practices in the whole Europe.

On Thursday, the 10th May 2012, the Saudi Arabian delegation visited the Austrian Federal Chancellery where they were welcomed by Dr. Manfred MATZKA, Director General of Division I (Protocol) at the Federal Chancellery. Mr. Christian RUPP, the spokesperson of the Federal Platform "Digital Austria", gave a fascinating presentation about Digital Austria and pointed out to the fact that it ranks among the best practices in Europe. In his presentation he informed the delegation members about the organisation, implementation, cooperation and coordination within the scope of Austria's e-government. Moreover he explained the e-government's structure and its cooperation with the Austrian Federal Chancellery, other Ministries, the Provinces, Municipalities and Regions and also with the Chambers of Austria. Mr. RUPP also illustrated the reference model of the unified access for administration and multiple e-ID-citizen-cards as one of the most advanced systems in the whole world. One of the model's overall goals is creating "one-stop-shop" portals.

Another one is the creation of the ELAK-back office in order to archive records digitally. The third important goal is to enable electronically delivered services concerning official documents. For this reason Digital Austria created an application store in order to go along with new social media as for example Facebook, Twitter & co.

In the evening the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce had the great honour to invite the Saudi Arabian delegation to a dinner in the Hotel Imperial where Dipl. Ing. Peter REICHSTÄDTER, Employee of Division I/11 at the Federal Chancellery, and Mr. Albert KRONBERGER, Managing Director of the Austrian company a-consult GmbH and member of the AACC, were present.

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Dinner at Hotel Imperial Vienna

On Friday, the 11th May 2012 the delegation went to the opening of the event “IKT Konvent Österreich” where H.E. Mr. Werner FAYMANN, Austria’s Federal Chancellor, and H.E. Dr. Michael SPINDELEGGER, Austria’s Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister, were amongst the high-ranking guests.

At the same day, the Saudi Arabian guests visited the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce at its headquarters. In the course of this meeting the AACC suggested a cooperation with the Saudi e-government Programme “YESSER”. This cooperation was aimed at being supported by the Saudi Arabian government in developing the e-government programme.



Meeting at the AACC