



**AACC**

A – 1015 Wien, Lobkowitzplatz 1, P.O. Box 76

جفوة التجارة العربية النمساوية  
austro-arab chamber of commerce  
österreichisch-arabische handelskammer

T +43 1 513 39 65, F +43 1 513 85 59, headoffice@aacc.at www.aacc.at

---

# **AACC Activities**

## **from January 2011 until December 2012**

## **AACC Activities from January 2011 until December 2012**

### **28-30 November 2012:**

#### **SG Khouja participates in UNIDO Conference in Tunisia**

Upon the invitation of H.E. Dr. Kandeh K. YUMKELLA, Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, participated in the International Conference on Productive Work for Youth in Tunisia and the MENA region from the 27th to the 30th November 2012. Eng. KHOUJA was speaker in the sixth session "Value-chain development programmes as a solution to inclusive economic development and employment creation on a regional level - one region one value-chain" during which he stressed that it was important to combine development and education in order to be able to reach the intended economic goals and to avoid the so-called structural unemployment. The AACC's Secretary General also mentioned some examples from Austria regarding developmental possibilities of the value chain. He explained that Austrian companies and institutions provided assistance in this field by offering students the possibility to combine theoretical education with practical training. The event was attended among others by H.E. Mr. Hamadi JEBALI, Prime Minister of Tunisia, Mr. Antonio TAJANI, Vice-President of the European Commission and Dr. Kandeh K. YUMKELLA, Director-General of UNIDO.



---

### **12-13 November 2012**

#### **AACC participates in 1st Arab-Hungarian Economic Forum**

From the 12th to the 13th November 2012, the Vice President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), KommmR. Nabil KUZBARI, and the AACC's Secretary General, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, participated in the 1st Arab-Hungarian Economic Forum, which took place in Budapest, Hungary.

The main aim of the Forum was to create an efficient platform for strengthening Arab-Hungarian economic cooperation and promoting business links in both the public and the private sectors. In the course of the event it was agreed to try to implement investment projects, above all in the fields of finance, renewable energy, tourism, agriculture, food industry, etc.



---

### **5 November 2012**

#### **Governor of Khartoum pays another visit to Vienna**

On the 5th November 2012 the Governor of the State of Khartoum, H. E. Dr. Abdulrahman AL-KHIDIR, and his esteemed delegation from Sudan again arrived in Vienna. In the course of the three-days stay, the Sudanese delegation met with several high-level representatives from Austria, among others with H.E. Dr. Michael HÄUPL, Vienna's Mayor, and many more. Moreover they visited some of Austria's leading companies and many governmental departments.



---

### **16 October 2012**

#### **In Turkey Eng. KHOUJA presents advice and precautions for foreign investors in Arab countries**

The Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, received an invitation from the company Constantia Flexible specialized in packaging technology in the fields of medicine and nutrition, to visit Turkey on October 16 2012, to participate in the company's annual meeting under the presence of 50 heads of the company's branches from all over world. Eng. KHOUJA gave a presentation on the opportunities and challenges of establishing new projects and investments in the Arab world, as well as on the relationships between the European and Arab countries and their bilateral commerce.



### **10-11 October 2012:**

### **6th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum / International Conference in Vienna: Sudan & Europe – Prospects of Cooperation for Regional Peace and Development**



On October 10th 2012 the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) had its annual highlight with its "Event of the Year", the 6th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum. This Forum was held in Vienna at the Hotel Hilton Vienna City and was visited by approximately over 500 people concerned with and interested in Arab-Austrian economic relations in general and in meeting leading personalities from both, the Republic of Austria and the Republic of the Sudan, in particular.

This year's Forum was under the banner of "Sudan & Europe: Prospects of Cooperation for Regional Peace and Development". The Forum's speakers came from both, Austria and Sudan and included several top-level personalities, among many others **H.E. Dr. Michael SPINDELEGGER, Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Austria, and H.E. Mr. Ali Ahmed KARTI, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of the Sudan.** Several Arab Ambassadors accredited to Austria, businesspeople from Sudan and Austria and numerous interested persons also participated in this event.

**21 September 2012****SG meets H.E. Dr. BISHRI**

On Friday, the 21st September 2012, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, had the great pleasure and honour to meet with H.E. Dr. Issa BISHRI, Minister of Communications and Science in the Republic of Sudan, at the premises of the AACC in Vienna. In the course of their meeting the AACC's Secretary General presented the chamber's various activities in the Republic of Austria and the Arab countries. Sudan's Minister of Communications and Science, in turn, expressed Sudan's great interest in new technologies primarily in the field of biofuel production by making use of corn stalks.

**15 – 20 September 2012****AACC delegation to Khartoum, Sudan**

From the 15th to 20th September 2012 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, and the President of the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party (PoIAk), Dr. Werner FASSLABEND, went on a working trip to Khartoum, Sudan. In the course of their stay they had numerous meetings with high-level representatives from several Sudanese companies, chambers and governmental authorities.



---

### **25 July 2012**

#### **H.E. EL WAZER receives offer for water desalination in Gaza**

During a meeting at the premises of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) on Wednesday, the 25th July 2012, the Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Palestine, H.E. Dr. Zuheir EL WAZER, met with Eng. Franz NEUBACHER, Director General of the Austrian company UV & P Environmental Management and Engineering which is a member of the AACC.

Eng. NEUBACHER made an offer by which UV & P is trying to apply the most recent technology in the field of alternative energy for the desalination of the seawater in the Gaza Strip.



**9 July 2012****H.E. Eng. AL-MOBTY: AACC's important role in Saudi-Austrian Business Council**

On the 9th July 2012 a delegation of the Council of Saudi Chambers under the direction of H.E. Eng. Abdullah S. AL-MOBTY who was accompanied by members of the Council and Saudi-Arabian businesspeople came to Austria on a working visit to further develop and promote the trade and economic relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Austria.

The Chairman of the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry, H.E. Eng. Abdullah S. AL-MOBTY, praised the important role of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) in promoting trade and economic relations between the Republic of Austria and the Arab States.

**2 – 7 July 2012****AACC organises Training Seminar for Secretaries General of Arab Chambers**

From the 2nd to the 7th July 2012, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce organised its bi-annual Training Seminar for Secretaries General and Directors General of the Arab Chambers with the goal to deepen the relations between the Arab Chambers and to improve communication.

This year's intensive training was completed by participants from Syria and Kuwait. The comprehensive programme included several presentations by leading representatives from the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO) who offered the participants the opportunity to get to know the activities of Austria's Federal Chamber by providing specific information and to gain an insight into the activities of the economic sector in the Republic of Austria, the organisational structures and services and also into the already existing cooperation between the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the European economic zones as well as the trade relations on international level.



---

### **6 July 2012**

#### **Austrian printing technology knocking at Jordan's doors**

On the 6th July 2012 a delegation of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) led by Prof. Reinhart GAUSTERER, Vice President of the AACC and Director General of the Austrian company "Österreichische Staatsdruckerei" (OeSD Group), and accompanied by Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, Secretary General of the AACC, visited Jordan's capital Amman. There they met with several officials and visited companies to discuss the possibilities of bringing Austria's advanced technologies in the field of safe printing to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Moreover they talked about possible cooperation with the OeSD Group. The delegation of the AACC also discussed future Austro-Arab partnerships with Jordanian companies in the field of smart chip cards.



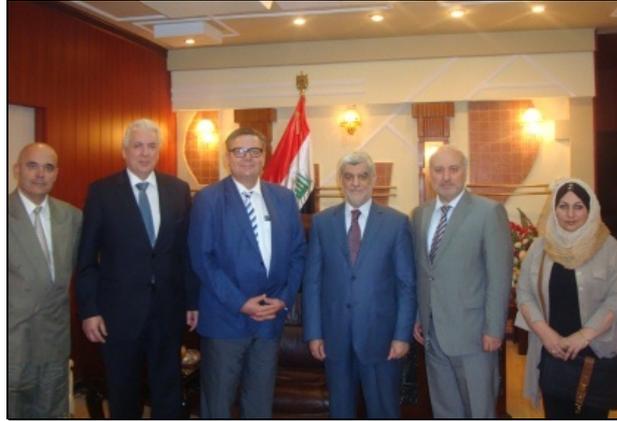
---

### **23 June 2012**

#### **AACC trying to promote scientific and technological relations between Austria and Iraq**

In the course of the AACC's efforts to improve the economic and trade relations between the Republic of Austria and the Republic of Iraq, on the 23rd June 2012 a delegation of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) led by Prof. Reinhart GAUSTERER, Vice President of the AACC and Director General of the Austrian company "Österreichische Staatsdruckerei" (OeSD Group), and accompanied by Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, Secretary General of the AACC, travelled to Iraq for a three-days stay.

The delegation members had talks with high-level Iraqi representatives and discussed the possibilities of improving the relations between Austria and Iraq, above all in the field of safe printing and e-Government.



### **25 May 2012**

#### **Vice-President KommR. KUZBARI meets the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq in Austria, H.E. Dr. Surood NAJIB**

On 25 May 2012, KommR. Nabil KUZBARI, the Vice President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce had the great honour and pleasure to welcome H.E. Dr. Surood R. NAJIB, the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq in Austria, at the premises of his company VIMPEX. Dipl. Ing. Mouddar KHOUJA, the AACC's Secretary General was also present.



In the course of this meeting they talked about the good feedback concerning the high-ranking visits of H.E. Dr. Abdulkerim Yaseen AL-SAMMERAI, Minister of Science and Technology of the Republic of Iraq (in May), and H.E. Dr. Salah Abdul RAZAQ, the Governor of Baghdad (in February). The AACC's Vice President and the Iraqi Ambassador emphasised the importance and significance of further cooperation between Austria and Iraq in order to strengthen the economic and trade relations between the two countries.

---

**22 May 2012****Visit of H.E. Dr. Gerhard WEINBERGER , designated Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to the Republic of Tunisia, to AACC**

On 22 May 2012, the designated Ambassador of the Republic of Austria in the Republic of Tunisia, H.E. Dr. Gerhard WEINBERGER, paid a visit to the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Dipl. Ing. Mouddar KHOUJA at the AACC headquarters.



On his own initiative, H.E. Dr. WEINBERGER asked for the meeting to exchange information about the possibilities for cooperation between Austria and Tunisia, above all in the fields of renewable energy as for example waste-to-energy, wind and solar power. They agreed on a close cooperation between the AACC and the new Austrian Ambassador in Tunisia in order to be able to jointly support and promote the projects between the two countries.

---

**9 – 11 May 2012:****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 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.

**30 April – 4 May 2012****Official visit of H.E. Dr. Abdulkerim Yaseen AL-SAMMERAI, Minister of Science and Technology of the Republic of Iraq, in Vienna**

From the 30th April to the 4th May 2012, H.E. Dr. Abdulkerim Yaseen AL-SAMMERAI, the Minister of Science and Technology in the Republic of Iraq, and his esteemed delegation came to Vienna, Austria, on an official visit. The delegation consisted of Mr. Emad R. FAHMY, Director General of the Department for Research and Technical Development, Mr. Ali HASAN TARESH, Director General and Member of the National Council for Public Governance Government and Representative of the Ministry of Defence, Mr. Majeed Sadoon JASIM, Director General and Member of the National Council for Public Governance, Mr. Hasan Abdulkareem SHAKIR, Director of the Data Processing Centre, Mr. Yahya Ghazi ABED, Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Science and Technology, and further members.



**1-4 April 2012****Visit of H.E. BETTAIEB, State Secretary for Investment and International Cooperation of the Republic of Tunisia**

From 1st til 4th April 2012 the State Secretary for Investment and International Cooperation in the Republic of Tunisia, H.E. Alaya BETTAIEB, paid an official visit to the Republic of Austria. In the course of his three days stay in Vienna, the State Secretary had several meetings with high-ranking Austrian representatives from different fields.

**16 March 2012****Eng. KHOUJA discussing transfer of Austrian technology to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**

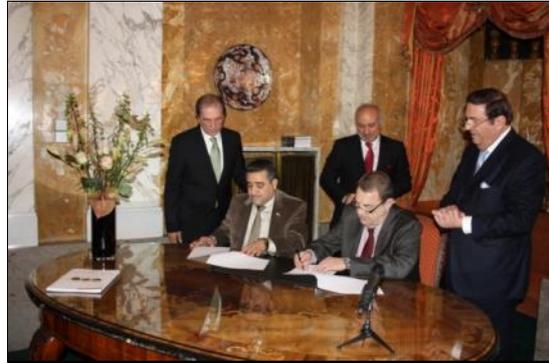
The Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, visited the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry where he met with the Vice-Secretary General of the Chamber, Eng. Mohie Eddin HAKAMI during his stay in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 17 March 2012.

Both sides discussed about future cooperation and the strengthening of the bilateral relations as well as about the opportunities of increasing investments between the Republic of Austria and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



**14-19 February 2012****Visit of H.E. Dr. Salah Abdul RAZAQ, the Governor of Baghdad in Vienna**

From 14th til 19th February 2012, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) had the great honour to welcome H.E. Dr. Salah Abdul RAZAQ, the Governor of Baghdad, and his delegation from Iraq in Vienna. On occasion of the high-ranking visit, the AACC and the City of Baghdad signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

**23 January 2012****Agreement on the development of relations between the AACC and UNIDO**

On Monday, 23 January 2012, the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), H.E. Mr. Kandeh K. YUMKELLA, welcomed the Vice President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Commercial Advisor Mr. Nabil KUZBARI and AACC's Secretary General, Engineer Mr. Mouddar KHOUJA, at the VIC in Vienna.



**16 January 2012****AACC Vice-President KUZBARI proposed strengthening the economic relations between Tunisia and Austria**

On January 16th 2012, the Vice-President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Commercial Advisor Mr. Nabil KUZBARI went to Tunis for a business trip where he was welcomed by the Minister of Investment and International Cooperation H.E. Mr. Riad BELTAIB.

**10-13 December 2011:****Exploratory Business Trip to Doha, Qatar on the Occasion of the Soft Opening of the Austrian Embassy and Trade Department, 10-13 December 2011**

In joint cooperation with the [Austrian](#) Federal Economic Chamber (WKO) and the Society for Austro-Arab Relations (GÖAB), the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) had the honour to lead an Austrian trade delegation to Qatar from December 10th to December 13th 2011. On the occasion of the festive soft opening of the Austrian Embassy and the Trade Department in Qatar's capital Doha and in the presence of a great number of both, official and business representatives from Austria and Qatar, the Austrian Foreign Ministry appointed an Austrian Ambassador and a Chargé d'Affaires to the State of Qatar.



The exclusive delegation of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), headed by its President Dr. Richard SCHENZ, Vice-President Councillor Nabil KUZBARI and coordinated by Secretary General Dipl.-Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, was compiled of Former Minister of Defence Mr. Herbert SCHEIBNER; Prof. Reinhart GAUSTERER, Director General, and Mag. Andreas ZECHMANN, International Sales Manager of the Oesterreichische Staatsdruckerei; Dr. Max HUBER, CEO Dr. Max Huber GesmbH; Dipl.-Ing. Talik CHALABI, Managing Director, Chalabi Architekten&Partner ZT GmbH; Mag. Christoph ARTNER, CEO, and Mr. Andreas PAULY, Management Advisor, IASON GmbH; Dr. Harald RAFFAY, Consultant, VimpeX GmbH; and Mr. Fazlollah ROSTAMIAN, CEO Tecs GmbH.

---

### **5 December 2011:**

#### **SG Khouja as key note speaker during the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean / Meeting of the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water at the Austrian Parliament**

On 5 December 2011, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Dipl.-Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA was invited to give a key note speech at the Austrian Parliament during the Meeting of the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (EUROMED), headed by Prof. Stefan SCHENNACH.



---

### **24/29 November 2011:**

#### **SG Khouja as participant and speaker at the UNIDO Expert's Group Meeting and Round Table of the Arab Programme during the UNIDO's General Conference**

On 24 and 29 November 2011, the Secretary General of the AACC Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA participated as an expert speaker at an Expert's Group Meeting and the Round Table Forum focusing "Youth Participation in the Overall Economic Development in the Arab Region", organised by the Arab Program of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization "UNIDO" under its Director Dr. Azza MORSSY. The participants surveyed the challenges facing Arab youth, the opportunities, and the role that can be played by the UN agency in opening up a promising future to Arab manpower. The Meeting and Round Table were part of the programme during the UNIDO's Annual General Conference



**21 November 2011:**  
**Meeting of the FGCCC in Doha, Qatar**

On 21 November 2011, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) participated in a workshop organised by the Federation of Chambers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (FGCCC) in the Qatari capital Doha. In His presentation, he briefed the members and participants on the details of the “International Economic Informational Platform”, a database project initiated and proposed by the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce



**18/19 October 2011:**  
**5th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition and Opening Dinner**

On 18 October 2011 the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce invited to a festive Opening Dinner on the occasion of the 5th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Alois STÖGER, Austrian Federal Minister of Health, and H.E. Dr. Reinhold MITTERLEHNER, Austrian Federal Minister of Economy, Family & Youth. Over 200 top-class representatives from diplomacy, economy, business, politics and international institutions as well as members of the AACC, followed the invitation in the name of AACC President Senator Dr. h. c. Richard SCHENZ.

The 5th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition with its special focus on "HEALTH Care, Innovation & Tourism" was held on 19 October 2011 and presented high-profile researchers, speakers and experts in the field of medicine, innovation and management. The Forum was

accompanied by an exhibition under the participation of some 40 exhibitors and partners - both Arab Embassies in Austria and numerous well-known companies like - among others - VAMED, Pfizer, Europe Arab Bank, Oesterreichische Staatsdruckerei and DMH Franchise.



### **3 October 2011:**

#### **Meeting of Secretaries General and CEO's of Arab Chambers and Joint Arab Chambers of Commerce in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**

On 3 October 2011, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Dipl.-Eng. Mouddar Khouja participated in the Meeting of Secretaries General and CEO's of Arab and Joint-Arab Chambers of Commerce. The periodical meeting organised by the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry was held this time in Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh, and coordinated in cooperation with the Council of Saudi Chambers. The AACC's Secretary General Mr Mouddar Khouja was honoured by the exclusive invitation to present his latest project-in-progress of an "International Economic Informational Platform (IEIP)" during one of the main sessions. His innovative idea of the IEIP as a web-based platform to inter-connect its participating chambers and hence to provide its members with exclusive valuable and most actual information from the countries in question, was met with highly positive feedback by the delegates.



### **29 August 2011:**

#### **AACC invites H.E. Amr Moussa to participate in the European Forum Alpbach**

The AACC, with the most generous effort and support by its Vice-President Kommerzialrat Nabil KUZBARI, successfully invited H.E. Amr MOUSSA, Former Secretary General of the League of Arab States, to participate in the "European Forum Alpbach", an internationally high-esteemed, annual event under the current presidency of Dr. Erhard BUSEK, Former Vice-Chancellor of Austria. H.E. Mr. Amr MOUSSA opened the "Political Symposium" of the European Forum Alpbach, together with H.E. Mr. Danilo TÜRK, President of the Republic of

Slovenia, H.E. Mr. Luis MORENO OCAMPO, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, and H.E. Dr. Michael SPINDELEGGGER, Austrian Foreign Minister.



---

### **12 July 2011:**

#### **One-day Work Trip to the City of Graz with Commercial Counsellors, Delegates and Representatives for Trade & Economy at the Arab Embassies in Austria**

The Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) organized a business trip to the industrial city of Graz, the capital of Styria (Steiermark) some 150 km south west of Vienna. The trip included the visit to a number of companies that deal with alternative energy and waste recycling. The AACC had invited the heads of the consular and trade sections at the Arab Embassies in Austria to participate in this trip. In Graz, the Chairman of the Parliamentary block of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) in Graz, Dr. Peter PIFFL-PERČEVIĆ, held a reception for the delegation introducing the city and its high-tech potential especially in the field of alternative energy. This was followed by a visit to Servus, a company specialized in waste treatment; the visitors were shown the ways the company deals with domestic waste from the minute it is taken over from the citizens to the point of recycling it. A number of members of the delegation got the opportunity to test environment friendly cars that function with electricity. A visit at the recycling company Saubermacher, located at the new location complex Ecoport, marked the last activity of the program. This trip was organized by the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Member of the Chamber, Mr. Albert KRONBERGER, CEO of a-consult company.



**27 June 2011:****IFTAHU – Presentation of a Virtual Museum on Islamic Art**

The Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce and the Cultural Office of the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt invited their respective members and friends to the presentation of “IFTAHU”, a virtual Museum of Islamic Art on June 27, 2011. The venue of the presentation was the beautiful and spacious premises of the Egyptian Cultural Office. “IFTAHU” is a project of the Center for Translation Studies at the University of Vienna under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Annelies GLANDER, who guided the visitors through the virtual museum entralling them with fascinating information and in-depth explanations. The evening provided the visitors not only with unique virtually visual and musical encounters, but also with a rich oriental buffet with selected delicacies from the Lebanese, Syrian and Egyptian regions. [Approx. 35 pax]

**11 June 2011:****Coordinative Meeting of the Secretaries General of the Joint-Arab Chambers of Commerce in Europe, Vienna**

On 11 June 2011, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce had the honour to host the Coordinative Meeting of the Secretaries General of Joint-Arab Chambers of Commerce in

Europe in the Austrian capital Vienna. The Meeting was headed by H.E. Dr. Imad SHEHAB, Secretary General of the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries, and coordinated by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz AL-MIKHLAFI, Secretary General of the Arab-German Chamber of Commerce "Ghorfa", in his function as the coordinator of Joint-Arab Chambers in Europe. The Meeting was honoured by the presence of the Secretaries General and Directors of Joint-Arab Chambers of Commerce in Europe, as well as with representatives of the League of Arab States. The Meeting of the Secretaries General was crowned with the generous invitation by Commercial Counsellor Nabil KUZBARI, Vice-President of the AACC, to an exclusive Dinner in the presence of Their Excellencies the Ambassadors and Representatives of Arab countries in Austria.

---

### **21-26 May 2011:**

#### **Business Trip of the Secretary General to meet Ministers, Representatives and Businessmen in Doha, Qatar**

From 21 until 26 of May 2011, Mr. Mouddar Khouja, Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce went on a business trip to Doha, Qatar, to meet with Their Excellencies Dr. Khalid AL-ATTIYAH, Minister of State for International Cooperation, and Abdallah Bin Khaled AL-QAHTANI, Minister of Health and Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Health, as well as with representatives of highly awarded institutions and important enterprises like the Qatar Chamber of Commerce, the Qatar Foundation, the Commercial Bank of Qatar and Qatar Solar Technology.

Throughout his trip and during his meetings, Mr. Khouja was busy in promoting the AACC's activities and representing interests of AACC members. He also introduced the AACC's business magazine SHARAKA and received an exclusive interview with His Excellency Minister AL-ATTIYAH. He was also honoured by receiving a positive response of His Excellency Minister AL-QAHTANI to attend the upcoming "5th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition / Focus HEALTH Care, Innovation & Technology" in October 2011



### **26 May 2011:**

#### **AACC & Qatar Airways participating in Exporttag**

On Thursday, 26 May 2011, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce participated in the "9. Österreichischer Exporttag" of the Aussenwirtschaft Österreich (AWO) , at the WKO, Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, 1040 Vienna. The "Exporttag" featured interesting lectures,

discussion panels and an exhibition of enterprises specialised in export and trade between Austria and foreign countries. With more than 2500 visitors throughout the whole day, this year's Exporttag marked again an important platform for informational exchange, presentation and consultation with companies, enterprises and the public. As every year, the AACC's participation at the Exporttag attracted a high number of interested companies, enterprises and visitors, who approached the AACC's representation for consultations, cooperation inquiries, information, network service and many other matters. This year, the AACC was especially honoured to present itself at the "Exporttag" in cooperation with its new member Qatar Airways.



### **11-12 May 2011:**

#### **Participation at the 14<sup>th</sup> German-Arab Business Forum and General Assembly in Berlin, Germany**

From 10-12 May 2011, Vice-President Mr. Nabil Kuzbari and Secretary General Mr. Mouddar Khouja participated at the 14th German-Arab Business Forum and the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and General Assembly of the German GHORFA in Berlin. Throughout his stay in Berlin and their participation at different meetings and session of the Forum, Secretary General Mr. Khouja seized the opportunity to affirm, further and extend the international business relations and network of the AACC with high-level representatives of institutions, chambers, enterprises and companies from both Europe and the Arab countries. The Secretary General also used his stay in Berlin to promote the upcoming "5th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition" by the AACC, which will be convened on 18/19 October 2011, and invited all representatives and discussions partners to attend the Forum.



**4 April 2011:****ROUND TABLE TUNISIA: Future Perspectives.**

During a round-table discussion regarding the future perspectives of Tunisia organized by the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia in Vienna on April 4, 2011 at the premises of the AACC, Mr. Sabri CHAABANI said that “the initiative of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce in organizing this event adds to the positive outlook on Tunisia, and the process of democratization that led to the revolution of ‘freedom and dignity’.” Among the speakers at the round table were also the Director of the Export Financing and Promotion Division at the Austrian Ministry of Finance Ms. Silvia MACA, the Director of the Tunisian Tourist Board in Austria, Mr. Riadh DKHILI, and Mr. Youssef CHEBBI, Financial Director of Tunisair Austria (by proxy of the General Director Mr. Mohamed MZAH); among the attendees were Austrian businessmen and people involved in trade and investment in and with Tunisia. [Approx. 25 Pax]

**3-7 April 2011:****Visit of a Delegation of the Arab Union for Leather Industries to Austria**

Upon the request of the Arab Union for Leather Industries, a division of the League of Arab States, the Austro Arab Chamber of Commerce organized a visiting program to Austria from 3-7 April 2011. The delegation was comprised of- Mr. Yousef SAAD, Secretary General of the Union, Mr. Ali Taleb KAREEM, Financial Manager of the Union, Mr. Tareq AL-TAMEEMI, Marketing and Commercial Manager of the Union, and Mr. Jasem ALSAQER, Member of the Board of Directors of the Union. The delegation met with the President of the Association of the Austrian Textile, Clothing, Shoe and Leather Industry and visited a number of Austrian companies such as VA TECH WABAG, HARTJES and WOLLSDORF LEDER SCHMIDT, where it was briefed on the latest technologies in tanning and leather industry as well as in water recycling technology of wastes resulting from this industry and the chemical and biological treatment of water

---

### **3 March 2011:**

#### **Participation at a meeting of the Arab League in Cairo**

After the Secretary General, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, had taken up contact with the Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs at the Arab League, Dr. Mohammed AL TOWEIJRI, the AACC represented by Dr. Ahmed ELMATBOULY, Chief Editor of the AACC's Magazine SHARAKA, was invited to attend a meeting initiated by the Arab Tourism Organization aimed at finding methods to revive tourism in Egypt and Tunisia. This meeting convened at the headquarters of the Arab League in Cairo on March 3, 2011 was chaired by Dr. AL TOWEIJRI and attended by 25 participants. Dr. Bandar FUHAID, the President of the Arab Tourism Organization, Dr. Abdurrahman TAHA, the Executive Director of the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit and representatives of the Egyptian and Tunisian Ministries of Tourism all attended this meeting. Dr. ELMATBOULY also seized to opportunity to present the project for an International Economic Forum that was put forward by the Secretary-General KHOUJA, to Ms. Manal MOWAFI, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Arab League, and to Mr. Abdul Latif BAKIR, Director of the Department of Information Technology at the Arab League.



**15-17 March 2011:****Visit of the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Sudan H.E. Ahmed Ibrahim AL-TAHIR to Austria**

On March 15, 2011 a Sudanese delegation headed by Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim AL-TAHIR, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Sudan, Mr. Zubair Ahmed HASSAN MP, previous Minister of Finance, previous Minister of Energy and Mining, the Governor of Central Bank of Sudan, Mr. Mahdi IBRAHIM, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in Parliament and former Ambassador of Sudan to both, Switzerland and the United States arrived in Vienna. The delegation also included Dr. Amani AL-SAMANI, one of the 112 female members of the Sudanese parliament. AACC's President Senator Dr. Richard SCHENZ met the delegation during a special discussion round on Sudan organised by the POLAK and focused during the meeting on the need for economic and trade cooperation between both Sudan and Austria. Upon the request of the Sudanese Embassy in Austria, the Secretary General of the AACC, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA accompanied the Sudanese parliamentary delegation during its visit in Vienna

---

**1-2 March 2011:****Participation at the 14<sup>th</sup> Arab Business Owners and Investors 2011 Conference Amman, Jordan**

From 1-2 March 2011, the AACC, represented by its President Senator Dr. Richard SCHENZ, Vice-President KommR Nabil KUZBARI and Secretary General Dipl.-Ing. Mouddar KHOUJA participated at the 14<sup>th</sup> Arab Business Owners and Investors 2011 Conference in Amman, Jordan. The Conference, which was organised by the Jordan Chamber of Commerce and attended by some 400 participants – high-ranking officials and representatives from Ministries, Investment Authorities, Chambers as well as from the private business sector – was convened to discuss and encourage investment in all economic sector and in all Arab countries. AACC President Senator Dr. Richard SCHENZ and AACC Vice-President KommR Nabil KUZBARI presented their experts' analyses and reports at the panel on "Investment Opportunities in Industry, Energy and Renewable Energy".



**9 February 2011:****“Information and Discussion Round on the Current Economic Situation in Egypt”**

On Wednesday, 9 February 2011, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce invited its members and interested partners to an “Information and Discussion Round on the Current Economic Situation in Egypt”, with expert speakers from official institutions and some 30 people – businessmen and representatives of Austrian companies – participating with much interest. The discussion round was featured by Dr. Kurt ALTMANN, Austrian Federal Chamber of Economy (WKO), Mag.a Silvia MACA, Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF), and Mag.a Sandra SPATZIERER, Austrian Development Agency (ADA). The event was convened in response to the recent developments in Egypt to provide AACC members with a special information service in a time of uncertain developments in economic and commercial relations.

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

In January 2011, 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. With the participation of several kings, presidents, princes, heads and officials from the Arab countries, the Summit discussed means of intensifying the joint Arab work to face the economic challenges, and to push economic and social development. During the meeting and ongoing talks, SG Khouja took the opportunity to introduce to the high-level participants the AACC’s new Presidency and to further the AACC’s network relations. He also gave interviews to the Arabic and international media.

