



**AACC**

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

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**Events & Activities**  
**of the**  
**Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce**  
**from January 2017 – December 2017**

### 21 December 2017: AACC at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Croatian-Arab Economic Forum in Rijeka, Croatia



On December 21, 2017, the SG of the AACC was invited as an expert speaker at the **2<sup>nd</sup> Croatian-Arab Economic Forum** organised by the Croatian Arab Friendship Association in Rijeka, Croatia.

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### 29-30 November 2017: AACC at the 6<sup>th</sup> Arab-Hellenic Economic Forum, Greece



From 29-30 November 2017, the Secretary General of the AACC actively participated in the **6<sup>th</sup> Arab-Hellenic Economic Forum** in Athens, Greece, where he was speaker and chair of a panel.

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### 27 November 2017: 9<sup>th</sup> Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition

On Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2017 the **Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC)** successfully organised the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of its periodic “**Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition**”. This year, the AACC was pleased to welcome the **Vienna Business Agency** as its official partner for the events that were held at the prestigious **Festival Hall of the Vienna City Hall**, the headquarters of the Municipality of Vienna.



The Forum & Exhibition was honoured by the participation of a high number of prominent officials, personalities, representatives, speakers and delegates from both, Austria and the Arab countries. At the Opening Ceremony and during the day, the event hosted in total almost **500 interested visitors** from Austria and the Arab countries.

At the **Opening Ceremony**, the president of the AACC **H.E. Dr. Richard SCHENZ** festively opened the Forum in the presence of **H.E. Dr. Heinz FISCHER**, former Federal President of the Republic of Austria and the founding father of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, **H.E. Kommerzialrat Nabil R. KUZBARI**.

This year's Opening Ceremony was moderated by **Ms. Sabine OHLER**, Head of International Business at Vienna Business Agency, and witnessed again the participation of the following high-ranking personalities and official from both, Austria and the Arab region: **H.E. Dr. Ahmad MAITEEQ**, Vice-President of the Government of National Accordance, Libya; and **H.E. Minister Prof. Dr. Wolfgang BRANDSTETTER**, Vice-Chancellor & Minister of Justice of the Republic of Austria. As a special privilege, **H.E. Senator Nael AL KABARITI**, the President of the Union of Arab Chambers was personally participating in this year's Forum. The Opening Ceremony was also honoured by welcome speeches from **H.E. Dr. Auday KHAIRALLA**, President of the Arab Ambassadors' Council, Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to Austria; and **H.E. Eng. Omar AL-RAWI**, Member of the Viennese Parliament & Representative of City of Vienna. The Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, **Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA**, also gave a short welcome note to the distinguished guests.

After the Opening Ceremony, a **Memorandum of Understanding** was signed by the President of the AACC Senator **H.E. Dr. Richard SCHENZ** and **H.E. Mohammed RAIED**, the President of the General Libyan Union of Chambers, to establish an "**Austrian-Libyan Businessmen Forum**" in order to strengthen the relations and to provide the framework for future cooperation in the fields of mutual interest.



Among the other high-level guests and VIP attendees at the Forum were **H.E. Dr. Mohammed AL-MAITAMI**, Minister for Industry and Trade of the Republic of Yemen; the chairmen and senior representatives from chambers of commerce from Libya, Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, and Syria, together with official delegates from Iraq, and businessmen from Libya and Saudi-Arabia. Present were also Their Excellences ambassadors and representatives from Arab embassies, from the mission of the League of Arab States, the mission of the GCC to Austria and the international diplomatic corps.

Right after the Closing of the Forum & Exhibition, the AACC invited interested Austrian companies for a special **B2B-Meeting** with business delegates from **Saudi Arabia** and **Libya**. This initiative was very well received by company representatives, and offered personal introduction and networking with potential future business partners.

As a special media feature, the 9<sup>th</sup> Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition was recorded live and published on air with a **live-streaming video link** on the **AACC's facebook sites**, offering all interested audience a participation in the event even while not being present in person.



**9 November 2017: Austria / Iraq**

The SG, together with **Em.O.Univ.-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr.techn. Dr.h.c.mult. Heinz BRANDL** paid a visit to H.E. Ambassador **Dr. Auday KHAIRALLA** to discuss scientific and technical cooperation between Austria and Iraq.

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**2 November 2017: Austria / Arab League**

Arab President KR Nabil KUZBARI and the SG of the AACC presented to the **Arab Ambassadors' Council** a report on the Austrian Economy and invited Their Excellencies to the 9<sup>th</sup> Arab- Austrian Economic Forum.

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**16 - 19 October 2017: Libya**

Upon invitation of **H.E. Mr. Mohammed RAIED**, President of the General Union of Libyan Chambers, the SG visited Libya and met with the Libyan Vice-President; **HE. Mohamed**

**SIALA**; Minister for Foreign affairs; **HE. Nasir SAGHLAN**; Minister of Economy; the **General Union** and with **25 Libyan Businessmen**.

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### 26-28 September 2017: Arab African Forum in Jordan



The AACC coordinated a delegation to attend the Arab African Forum in Jordan. The AACC delegation was headed by **AACC's Arab President KR Nabil Kuzbari**; and consisted of Former Minister **Mr. Herbert Scheibner**, representatives of AACC member companies and SG Khouja.

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### 20 September 2017: Austria / GCC Meeting



Upon invitation by **HE. Dr. Mohammed AL GHEILANI**, Head of the GCC Mission to Austria, the SG was invited for an exclusive meeting and presentation for **H.E. Min. pp. Rihan FAYEZ**, the Head of the Economic Affairs Sector of the **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)**. HE FAYEZ was particularly interested in a close cooperation to reach companies and the private sector. He said that he would report about the meeting and the discussed topics to the Secretary General of the GCC in Saudi Arabia.

**22 August 2017: Austria / KSA**

The SG of the AACC paid a courtesy visit to HE. Ambassador **Dr. Khaled AL-JINDAN**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Austria and discussed the activities of the AACC and mutual cooperation in the economic sector.

**3 – 7 August 2017: Austria / Dubai - UAE**

**Mr. Dawood AL SHIZAWI**, President of the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) visited the SG of the AACC and discussed with him various fields of cooperation between the AACC and the AIM and agreed to receive a delegation from **Dubai – Municipality** this year and another UAE delegation next year. Mr. AL SHIZAWI briefed the SG on the new educational initiative of **H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid AL MAKTOOM**, offering pupils education by **apprenticeship**. The SG referred to the Austrian Dual Educational Training System and offered to coordinate a meeting with the Austrian WIFI and Dubai Municipality.

### 3 – 7 July 2017: SG's Training



Since a long time, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce has been organizing a **training seminar for senior representatives of Arab chambers** every second year. This year's training was held between 3rd and 7th of July 2017 with participants from the **UAE, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon and Syria**, and the SG of the **Arab-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce & Development**.

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### 26 June 2017: AACC at the WKO Exporttag

The Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) participated in the **14th Austrian Exporter's Day** of the **Aussenwirtschaft Österreich (AWO)** at the **Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO)** in Vienna. With some 2800 visitors, 35 exhibitors and all Austrian economic delegates present, this year's Exporttag was an important experts' platform for informational exchange, presentation and consultation with companies, enterprises and the public.



### 8 June 2017: Austria / Lufthansa - OPEC

AACC organized a business visit in Vienna for **Lufthansa Cargo AG**, their managers and partners. During their visit they had the chance to be introduced to the **OPEC General Secretariat** and got an introduction to the Oil Market Short-term Outlook and the OPEC" Instrument of Change". The highly informative and interesting meeting was very much appreciated by Lufthansa Cargo AG.



### 12 May 2017: Austria / UNIDO

At the sidelines of the Vienna Energy Forum of UNIDO the SG had the honour to receive **H.E. Aziz Rabah, Moroccan Minister of Equipment, Transport and Logistics** at the premises of the AACC, where they were outlining the possible cooperation fields between Austria and Morocco, e.g. renewable energy, infrastructure, water, industrialization and transport.



### 12 May 2017: Austria / UNIDO



**Dr. Ahmed Badr**, Executive Director of the **Arab Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)** and **Ashraf Kraidy**, Planning Director of RCREEE visited the AACC and discussed cooperation in the field of training in renewable energy, where Austria holds an outstanding position worldwide and has excellent experts in this area.

**Both institutions agreed to define a common curriculum that RCREEE will present to the public and private sector in the Arab countries and will promote training units on the discussed topic.**

**11 May 2017: Austria / UNIDO**

The SG of the AACC joined the **Vienna Energy Forum** and later reported about the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Energy**. Presentation where held by many international ministers of Energy, OFID; World Bank, ÖKB; CGM. At the sidelines, the SG had a meeting with **Mariam Bensaleh Shakrun**, President of the Confederation Generale des Enterprises du Maroc.

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**5 May 2017: Austria / Libya**

The SG held a meeting with **Mr. Bashier al Mabrouk Abu Kheler**, Director General of **Al Sadd Ltd.**, and the Director General of the **Libyan Matahin**. SG invited the Libyan delegation to become members of the AACC and to hold an annual meeting for Libyan & Austrian business people using the AACC as a platform. Al Sadd Ltd. became AACC member and the SG was invited to visit Libya to establish the platform together with the General Libyan Union of Chambers.

**27 April 2017: Austria / Jordan**

Arab President **KR Nabil Kuzbari** hosted a dinner for a Jordanian Delegation headed by **HE. Minister Yarub AL-Kudah** and **HE. Senator Nael Al-Kabariti**; present were also AACC President **Dr. Richard Schenz**, Former Vice-Chancellor **Dr. Michael Spindelegger**; and Austrian company representatives.



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### 21 March 2017: Rabat / Morocco

During a visit to Morocco, the SG had a meeting with **H.E. Mohamed Nabil Benabdallah, Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and Urban Policy**. He briefed the Minister about Vienna having been elected the city with the highest life-quality for the 6th time in a row. Vienna also had big social housing projects and was one of the biggest proprietors worldwide, the SG informed.



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### 20 March 2017: Rabat / Morocco



The SG had a meeting with **H.E. Dr. Nazha Al-Wafi**, the Vice President of the **Moroccan Parliament**. He held a presentation about the AACC and briefed about the economic situation in Austria, where he emphasized on the trade-volume between Morocco and Austria.

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### 20 March 2017: Rabat / Morocco



The SG held meetings with a number of **Moroccan Parliamentarians** from different governmental parties.

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### 13 March 2017: Visit of HE. Lotfi Boushara, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco, to the AACC



**H.E. Lotfi Boushara**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco, paid a visit to the AACC for preparation of the SG's visit to Morocco.

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**19-20 February 2017: Dakhla / Morocco**

The SG participated in the **Crans Montana Forum**, Cooperation North-South, South-South, in Dakhla, Morocco.

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**30 January 2017: Networking / Austria**

AACC invited company **Fronius Ind. and Industrius d.o.o.** for a meeting with Arab businessmen and discussed mutual cooperation and presentation of projects in the Arab region. The parties agreed to strengthen their relationship in order to build fruitful cooperation for more market activities in the Arab region.

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27 January 2017: Networking 1



AACC hosted a meeting with the companies **ILF** and **SCAN**, discussing the potential future market entry in the oil and gas industry in Libya.

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