

ACTIVITIES

of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce in 2018

12 December 2018: Invitation to the 40th Anniversary of Arab-Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce | Brussels, Belgium

Together with colleagues from the Union of Arab Chambers and the Joint-Arab Chambers, and other notables, the Secretary General of AACC was invited to celebrate together the 40th Anniversary of its sister chamber in Belgium.



10 - 11 December 2018: SG invited as speaker at Sharjah FDI Forum | Sharjah United Arab Emirates

Upon invitation by the Chairman, the SG participated as a speaker in the Sharjah FDI Forum „Shaping the Future of Economies“, where he discussed „The Future of Chamber of Commerce“ in the related panel.



20 November 2018: Economic Forum on Tunisia & B2B | Austria

On 20 November 2018, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia in Austria jointly organised the "Economic Forum on Tunisia & B2B".

Among the high-level speakers were: Kommerzialrat Nabil R. Kuzbari, Arab President & Founder of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce; H.E. Mr. Mohamed Mezghani, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia; H.E. Mr. Hatem Ferjani; State Secretary, Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in charge of Economic Diplomacy; and many more.

The Forum & B2B received a very positive resonance and was attended by approx. 80 visitors, consisting of Their Excellencies Arab Ambassadors, AACC members, business people and individual visitors.



13 November 2018: Courtesy Visit to the New Ambassador of the Sudan to Austria

On 13 November 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA paid a courtesy visit to the new Ambassador of the Sudan to Austria, H.E. Mr. Mirghani Abbaker Altayeb Bakhit.

29-30 October 2018: SG as speaker at the 3rd EU Arab World Summit, Athens

The Secretary General Dipl.-Ing. Khouja was invited as a speaker to the 3rd EU Arab World Summit in Athens, Greece. The Summit was successfully held with more than 1000 delegates, Heads of State and Government, Ministers, high-level officials from EU and the Arab world, politicians, representatives from business Chambers and leading businessmen.



25 October 2018: Meeting with SAGIA

During his trip to Saudi Arabia, the Secretary General of the AACC met with representatives for the European Union at the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA).



23-25 October 2018: Participation in the Future Investment Initiative in Saudi Arabia



The Arab President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce H.E. Kommerzialrat Nabil Kuzbari and the Secretary General Dipl.-Ing. Mouddar Khouja were participating in the Future Investment Initiative Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 23-25 October 2018.

During the conference, they witnessed the signing of Memoranda of Understanding of about 50 Billion USD project volume.

At the evening of the 25th, the Secretary General was also attending the Austrian National Day Reception in Riyadh hosted by the Austrian Ambassador H.E. Dr. Gregor Kössler.



22 October 2018: Meeting at the Council of Saudi Chambers in Riyadh



During his business trip to Saudi Arabia, Secretary General Eng. Mouddar Khouja was welcomed by Dr. Saud Almashari, Secretary General of the Council of Saudi Chambers, in Riyadh to discuss scopes of cooperation.

8 October 2018: Meeting with the Deputy Director General, Ministry of Interior of the UAE

On October 8, the Secretary General welcomed Dr. Sultan Hussain Karmostaji, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Interior of the UAE for cooperative talks in the educational sector at the premises of the AACC.

**1 October 2018: 10th ARAB-AUSTRIAN ECONOMIC FORUM | Conference on: Energy Transition – Urban Technology and Sustainable Cities. New Opportunities for International Cooperation and Partnerships**

On October 1, 2018, the AACC and its partners invited high-level officials, speakers and visitors at the 10th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition: Conference on Energy Transition – Urban Technology and Sustainable Cities - New Opportunities for International Cooperation and Partnerships which was held at the premises of the Vienna City Hall, the headquarters of the municipality of Vienna.

The 10th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition was organised by the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) together with the Vienna Business Agency(VBA) / City of Vienna and the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), and in cooperation with the Union of the Mediterranean (UfM), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Union of Arab Chambers (UAC).

The 10th Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition was honoured by the presence of approximately 400 participants throughout the day, among them high-level dignitaries and official representatives from ministries, international organizations and official institutions, business personalities, together with representatives of the local economy, politics and the Austro-Arab business community. Participants included Arab President Nabil R. Kuzbari, President Dr. Richard Schenz, Dipl.-Ing. Omar Al-Rawi, H.E. Dr. Mahdi Allak, H.E. Dr. Johannes Peterlik, H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Samir Koubaa, H.E. Dipl.-Ing. Michael Esterl, H.E. Mr. Li Yong, and many more. In the evening, the AACC invited to an atmospheric Gala Dinner.



Left image: H.E. Arab President KR Nabil Kuzbari (left) with H.E. Amb. Dr. Johannes Peterlik
Right image: H.E. Dipl.-Ing. Michael Esterl – H.E. Mr. Li Yong – H.E. KR Nabil Kuzbari (from left)





25 September 2018: Courtesy Visit to the H.E. Yousuf Al-Jabri, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Austria

On 25 September 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA paid a courtesy visit to the new Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman, H.E. Mr. Youssef Aljabri.



17 September 2018: Presentation at the Arab Ambassadors' Council Meeting

On 17 September 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA was invited to join the Meeting of Arab Ambassadors' Council for a presentation.



20 August 2018: Welcome visit of the New Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq

On 20 August 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA was honoured by a welcome visit of H.E. Dr. Usama Abdelsaheb Mohsen AL NASHY, the newly appointed Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq to Austria, accompanied by diplomats.

**14 July 2018: Arab Ambassadors’ Corps visit to Piber**

On 14 July 2018, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), in cooperation with the Spanish Riding School / Federal Stud Piber, invited the Arab Ambassadors Corps to visit the Federal Stud Piber for a day. The President of the AACC, Senator Dr. Richard Schenz, and Mrs. Dkfm. Elisabeth Gürtler, Head of the Spanish Riding School / Federal Stud Piber, were welcoming the guests and spending an interesting and nature-loving day together.

13 July 2018: B2B /AACC member introduction to potential business partner from the United Arab Emirates

The Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) coordinated a B2B meeting between its new member Mebe GmbH and Mr. Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO of Strategic, one of the leading exhibitions, conferences and event organizers in the United Arab Emirates on 13 July 2018.



25 June 2018: AACC Economic Panel on “GCC Countries in Transformation: New Tax Landscape”



On 25 June 2018, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) invited to an Economic Panel focusing on the “GCC Countries in Transformation: New Tax Landscape” in the premises of Vienna Economic Chamber. The Panel was organised in cooperation with the Vienna Economic Chamber and Crowe UAE accounting firm, and with the most valuable support of the Mission of the Gulf Cooperation Council to Austria.

The President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Senator Dr. Richard SCHENZ, opened the Panel with a warm welcome to the VIP guests, speakers and the interested audience, among them H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mohammad GHEILANI, Head of the GCC Mission to Austria; the Chargé d'affaires of the Libyan embassy Dr. Jalal ALASHI; diplomats from the

embassies and missions of Kuwait, Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan, Egypt and the League of Arab States. Mag. Louai KUZBARI, vice-president of VIMPEX Handels GmbH and member of the AACC Board of Directors was also present, together with member companies of the AACC and other interested guests. In total, around 60 persons were participating in this event.



6 June 2018: Meeting with the Chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Libya



On June 6, 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Jalal ALASHI, chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Libya in Austria, where they talked about the current situation and business environment in Libya.

30 May 2018: Meeting with the Ambassador of Tunisia

On 30 May 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency Mr. Mohamed MEZGHANI, the newly accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Austria.

**6-7 May 2018: AACC Secretary General participates in “The Arab Forum for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency”**

The Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, was invited as a speaker at the fourth edition of “The Arab Forum for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency “ARFREE”.

The Forum was held in Kuwait from 6-7 of May 2018 under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Ahmed ABUL GHEIT, the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, and the Kuwaiti Minister of Electricity and Oil, Eng. Bakhit AL RASHIDI. The ARFREE Forum, which was co-organized by the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), presented topics of sustainable energy from investment, employment and technology perspectives, and was attended by a number of high-level representatives and personalities.

22-26 April 2018: Saudi-Arabia in Transformation Process

The Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Eng. Mouddar Khouja, was part of the Austrian Trade Delegation that visited the Kingdom of Saudi-Arabia from 22 to 26 April 2018. The delegation was headed by Eng. Walter Ruck, President of the Vienna Economic Chamber, and coordinated by the Austrian Commercial Counsellor for Saudi-Arabia Dr. Kurt Altmann with the support of Dr. Gabriele Führer, Director for Foreign Trade at the Vienna Economic Chamber. More than 15 Austrian companies were following the invitation to join the Trade Delegation.

The impressive program included meetings with high-level officials, decision makers, project leaders and representatives of the Saudi business community in Riyadh and Jeddah.



Meeting at the Council of Saudi Chambers



Left image: Eng. Khouja (right) with Eng. Ahmad Rajhi, Council of Saudi Chambers
 Right image: Eng. Khouja with Dr. Saudi Almashari (left), Council of Saudi Chambers

12-14 February 2018: AACC Delegation at “Kuwait International Conference for Reconstruction of Iraq”

From 12 – 14 February 2018 the State of Kuwait hosted the high-level “Kuwait International Conference for Reconstruction of Iraq” with over 2500 participants from official institutions and the private sector from all over the world.

The AACC, headed by its President Senator Dr. Richard SCHENZ and Secretary General Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA, organized a delegation trip for interested companies and representatives to participate in these important events.





13 April 2018: Secretary General meets the designated Mayor of Vienna

On 13 March 2018, the Secretary General of the AACC Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA had a welcome meeting with the new designated Mayor of Vienna H.E. Dr. Michael LUDWIG in his office at the Vienna City Hall.



2-4 April 2018, Sao Paulo – Brazil: AACC attends Arab-Brazilian Forum & Coordinative Meeting of the Joint-Foreign Arab Chambers in Sao Paulo, Brazil



From 2-4 April 2018, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA travelled to Sao Paulo, Brazil to attend the Arab-Brazilian Forum and for a highly important coordinative meeting of the Secretaries General of the Joint-Arab Chambers of Commerce.



The Arab-Brazilian Forum was organized by the Arab Brazilian Chamber, together with the Union of Arab Chambers and with the support of the League of Arab States on 2 April 2018. Its topic was "Building the Future", proposing a reflection on how Brazil's relations with Arab countries can grow and strengthen in a sustainable way. The Forum was attended by a great number of officials, representatives and businesspeople from both, Brazil and the Arab countries.

15 March 2018: Celebrating Arab Mother's Day at Domisol

On 15 March 2018, the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) and AACC member company Domisol jointly invited Arab diplomats, AACC members, family and friends to celebrate together on occasion of the coming "Arab Mother's Day" which is celebrated on 21 March. Domisol is a unique multibrand-shop for luxury merchandise right in the heart of Vienna.



6-8 March 2018: Coordinative Meetings for Bank Cooperation Iraq - Austria

Between 6-8 March 2018, the AACC coordinated several meetings with Austrian banks and experts on the Austrian Financial Market Authority, for possible cooperation in the banking sector between Austria and Iraq. Participants were H.E. Dr. Khaled Al Juboory from the Embassy of Iraq, and Mr. Mohammed Qasim.



26 February 2018: Cooperative talks between AACC and Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)

On 26 February 2018, the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA received Dr. Ahmed BADR, Executive Director of the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), together with Eng. Ashraf KRAIDY, Planning Director and Ms. Noha GAMAL EL DIN, Members States Relations and Operations Manager of RECREEE for coordinative talks in Vienna.



22-23 February 2018: AACC welcomes the President of Strategic Marketing Management Group for cooperative meetings

From 22-23 February 2018, Mr. Dawood AL SHEZAWI, President of Strategic Marketing Management Group paid a visit to Austria for coordinative meetings with the AACC, the Vienna Business Agency and the Institute for Economic Promotion of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WIFI). The visit was initialized and coordinated by the AACC.



9 January 2018: Meeting with the Ambassador of Lebanon

On 9 January 2018 the Secretary General of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC) Eng. Mouddar KHOUJA paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim ASSAF, the newly accredited Ambassador of the Lebanese Republic to Austria.