

For Immediate Release



## **AUB to hold regional conference on food security**

Beirut, Lebanon- 26/05/2011 - The American University of Beirut will be holding a regional conference on "Food Security in the Middle East and North Africa: The Role of Academic and Research Institutions" all day on June 2-3, 2011 in College Hall, B-1.

Organized by the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences (FAFS) at the American University of Beirut and the Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI), in partnership with the Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-IAMB) and Green Line, the meeting will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss the importance of research and education in achieving a food secure environment, while responding to the main challenges the region is currently facing.

The main purpose of the conference is to investigate the role of academic institutions in supporting food security and policy, in light of the region's challenges along five major themes: "Public policy advocacy for poverty Alleviation and development", "Capacity building in land and water management, crop and livestock production, fish farming and agro-industry", "Food and nutrition security", "Research and food security", and "University education and food insecurity a comparative experience".

ENDS

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Note to Editors

### **About AUB**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of more than 7,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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