

For Immediate Release



AUB co-organizes meeting on effective philanthropy in Arab world

Beirut, Lebanon- 03/05/2011 - Under the title "Towards Effective Philanthropy in the Arab Region" the Arab Foundations Forum (AFF) Annual Meeting 2011 will be held on May 4 - 6, 2011 at the Bristol Hotel in Beirut, Lebanon. The meeting is co-hosted by AFF members in Lebanon: Makhzoumi Foundation, Albert Nassar Foundation, Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC), American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Arab Human Rights Fund (AHRF).

A large number of leaders from Arab foundations, civil society organizations, and the private and public sectors in the region and beyond are expected to attend the meeting which will tackle prominent issues such as the role of the Arab philanthropic sector in supporting Civil Society Organizations (CSOs); sustainability management beyond finances; innovation and its role in philanthropy; effective partnerships; the role of philanthropy in supporting reform agendas; and regional changes and civil society law reforms.

Dr. Marwan Awartani, Chairman of the AFF, noted that among the key objectives of AFF is to foster dialogue, networking, learning and collaborating among its members and with partners in the sector, and to enhance access to relevant information and best practices in the field of philanthropy. This meeting will continue the dialogue on pressing issues facing the Arab philanthropic sector today; foster an environment that allows for the sharing of experiences and best practices; and provide an opportunity to learn from leading organizations in the field with an eye towards more effective philanthropy.

The AFF Annual Meeting 2011 will mark the official registration of the AFF as a non-profit association of foundations in Brussels with branch of a foreign association to be registered soon in Amman, Jordan. Since it was created in 2007, AFF membership grew from 12 to 34 members today, comprised of a diverse range of foundations working in the fields of development, education, health, democracy, arts and culture and much more.

AFF is a non-profit association of foundations that serves as a platform to encourage dialogue and collaboration between philanthropic institutions and key stakeholders involved in the philanthropic sector both in the Arab region and beyond.

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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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