

Agenda

WANA FORUM 2010

Pursuing Supranational Solutions to the Challenges of Carrying Capacity

16-18 May 2010

Kempinski Hotel, Amman, Jordan

Objectives:

1. To update members on the WANA Forum's progress since April 2009
2. To consider priority themes identified by WANA Forum participants
3. To review and agree upon future courses of action for the WANA Forum

SUNDAY, 16 MAY 2010

10:00-12:00

Overview of the WANA Forum and Participant Introductions by Sultan Barakat, WANA Forum Moderator

Opening Remarks

- **El Hassan bin Talal**, *Chairperson of the WANA Forum*
- **Yohei Sasakawa**, *Chairman of The Nippon Foundation, Japan & WANA Forum International Senior Advisory Board Member*

Transcending Regional Carrying Capacity

Overview by **Ismail Serageldin**, *Director, Library of Alexandria, Egypt and WANA Forum International Senior Advisory Board Member*

12:00-12:30

Coffee Break

12:30-14:00

Regional Themes and Priorities of the WANA Forum

This plenary is designed to inspire regional thinking around the priorities of the WANA Forum, which encompass the broader themes of economy and environment as well as the focused initiatives of social cohesion, reconstruction and recovery, water security and environmental education for sustainable development - none of which exist or operate in isolation. Leading individuals in their fields share their unique experiences as practitioners working to advance these pillars in the WANA region and across the globe.

- **Lakhdar Brahimi (Chair)**, *Former Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General and Foreign Minister of Algeria*
- **Khalid bin Mohammed Al-Attiyah**, *Minister of State for International Cooperation and Acting Minister of Business and Trade, Qatar*
- **Ann Pettifor**, *Director of Advocacy International and Fellow of the New Economics Foundation, United Kingdom*
- **Dennis Meadows**, *Director of the Institute for Policy and Social Science Research at the University of New Hampshire and co-author of the ground-breaking book *The Limits to Growth*, United States*
- **Zafar Adeel**, *Director of United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) and Chair of UN-Water*
- **Habiba Al Marashi**, *Chairperson of Emirates Environmental Group, UAE and Board Member of UN Global Compact*
- **Salma Abbasi**, *Chairperson and CEO, e Worldwide Group and Associate Fellow, King's College London, Conflict, Security and Development Group*

14:00-15:30 **Lunch**

15:30-17:00

Break Out Groups: Review of WANA Forum Priorities

These focus group sessions of the first day are devoted to presentations of proposals for advancing the priorities of the WANA Forum.

G1: Social Cohesion

- **Mohsen Marzouk (Chair)**, Secretary-General of Arab Democracy Foundation, Qatar
- **Nour Qabba'ah**, WANA Forum Researcher
- **Juho Saari**, Professor of Welfare Sociology at the University of Kuopio, Finland

G2: Green Industry & Infrastructure

- **Yusuf Mansur (Chair)**, CEO, Envision Consulting Group, Jordan
- **Chaled Abu-Gharbieh**, General Manager, EJAB Business and Investments L.L.C.

G3: Environmental Education for Sustainable Development & Revival of Hima in WANA

- **Odeh Al Jayyousi (Chair)**, Director Regional Office for West Asia, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Jordan
- **Walid Saleh**, Regional Coordinator, MENA, United Nations University, International Network on Water, Environment and Health, UAE
- **Nadia Al-Sakkaf**, Editor-in-Chief of The Yemen Times
- **Ibrahim Al-Khader**, Regional Director, Middle East Division at BirdLife International, Jordan
- **Aishah Abdallah**, Consultant, National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development, Saudi Arabia

G4: Reconstruction & Recovery

- **Sultan Barakat (Chair)**, WANA Forum Moderator and Professor of Politics and Director of the Post-war Reconstruction & Development Unit, University of York, UK
- **Karen Janjua**, Research Fellow, Head of Reconstruction Cluster at the Regional Human Security Centre, Jordan

17:00-17:30 **Coffee Break**

17:30-18:30

Launch of the Arabic Report of the Legal Empowerment of the Poor, Making the Law Work for Everyone

Seventy per cent of the world's population is unable to improve their livelihoods – regardless of how hard they work – due to multiple forms of exclusion. Poverty is not merely the lack of material resources. It extends to lack of power and choice. Without addressing policies and institutions that exclude the poor and marginalised, poverty will continue along with the increased dependency on the physical environment which further reduces the natural resources base and impedes sustainable development. A call to make legal empowerment a key pillar of the anti-poverty agenda in WANA, this session is organised in collaboration with the Arab Thought Forum and the United Nations Development Programme.

- **El Hassan bin Talal**, Commissioner on Legal Empowerment of the Poor and Chairperson of the WANA Forum
- **Medhat Hassanein**, Professor of Finance and Banking at the American University in Cairo and former Minister of Finance, Egypt

20:00-21:30

Dinner with keynote speaker Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary General of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

MONDAY, 17 MAY 2010

09:00-10:30

Displacement and Post-Conflict Reconstruction & Recovery

Approximately 70 per cent of the world refugee population is in Africa and the Middle East. Growing populations, declining access to resources (particularly water), increased consumption and demand on energy and repeated conflicts all add to the magnitude of stretching the limits of carrying capacity. In this plenary, speakers will provide an overview of where the region stands today and the areas for which regional cooperation is needed for closing the human dignity deficit.

WANA-led approaches to reconstruction and recovery have the potential to create a supranational mechanism for addressing conflict and its aftermath. Conflict has cost the region around \$12 trillion in missed economic growth and development over the last two decades, according to the 'Cost of Conflict in the Middle East' SFG 2009 report. The negative social, environmental and economic effects of conflict could present an opportunity to reconstruct communities based on good governance, green industry and infrastructure, socially cohesive policies and an understanding of carrying capacity.

- **Jaswant Singh (Chair)**, *Former Minister for Defence, Finance and External Affairs, India*
- **Imran Riza**, *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Representative in Jordan*
- **Ahmed Hassan**, *President of Somali Red Crescent Society*
- **Bakhtiar Amin**, *Founder of the International Alliance for Justice and Former Minister for Human Rights, Iraq*
- **Mohammed Ehsan Zia**, *Rural Development Consultant and Former Minister of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Afghanistan*
- **Mohammed Al-Arifi**, *Director General, Saudi Fund for Development, Saudi Arabia*

10:30-10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:00

Environment and Green Economy

As the WANA region confronts the challenges of climate change, it is more apparent that the days of infinite growth on a finite planet are over. Peaking oil production, growing food insecurity, water scarcity, jobless recoveries and a myriad of social, environmental and economic ills continue to further degrade carrying capacity. Is the WANA region repeating the mistakes of the industrialised world, leading us to further economic difficulties and ecological hazards? What are the prospects for a Pan Asian framework that includes WANA? In this panel discussion, speakers will be asked about the opportunities for WANA to adopt sustainable approaches to meet these challenges, move from consumption to production and leapfrog into the third industrial revolution of the post carbon economy.

- **Abdul Aziz bin Ali Al Nuaimi (Chair)**, *CEO of Al Ihsan Charity Centre and Chairman of International Steering Committee of Global Initiative Towards Sustainable Iraq, UAE*

- **Najib Saab**, Secretary General of Arab Forum for Environment and Development, Lebanon
- **Kazi Jalal**, Special Program Instructor, Environmental Studies at Harvard University Extension School, United States
- **Soubhi Abdulkarim**, Chairman and CEO, SOUTER Group, Syria/UAE
- **Daoud Kuttab**, Founding Director of Community Media Network and Media Activist, Palestine and Jordan
- **Asaad Serhal**, Director General of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon
- **Liu Baolai**, Council Member of Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs and Special Researcher for China Institute of International Studies

12:00-13:30

Break-Out Groups: Strategies for Engaging Partnerships

The focus groups for social cohesion, green industry & infrastructure, environmental education for sustainable development & Hima and reconstruction & recovery resume to provide constructive input on the proposals and put forth an outline for creating and engaging in targeted strategic partnerships.

13:00-14:30

Lunch

14:30-17:30

Our Common Future: Water, Environment and Energy Community

Following its recent report on the 'Cost of Conflict in the Middle East', the India-based think-tank Strategic Foresight Group (SFG) launched a study on water security for preventing future conflicts through collaborative regional solutions for peace and shared challenges. Organised by the SFG, this session is part of an ongoing series of consultations, with the first international workshop taking place in Montreux earlier this year.

Chaired by **Sundeep Waslekar**, President of Strategic Foresight Group

14:30-15:15

Vision Conversation with El Hassan bin Talal, WANA Forum Chairperson

15:15-16:15

Strategic Dialogue on Concrete Policy Initiatives

- **Karim Nashashibi**, Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Palestine Authority
- **Saban Disli**, Member of Parliament, Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister of Turkey
- **Munther Haddadin**, Former Minister for Water of Jordan
- **Ephraim Sneh**, Former Minister for Health of Israel
- **Emin Onen**, Member of Parliament, Deputy Chairman for Foreign Affairs of Turkey
- **Sami Al Askari**, Member of Parliament, former Adviser to the Prime Minister of Iraq

16:15-16:45

Coffee Break

16:45-17:15

Strategic Dialogue on International Cooperation

- **Jean-Daniel Ruch**, Special Envoy for the Middle East, Government of Switzerland
- **Francois Muenger**, Head of Water Initiatives, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

- Dag Juhlin-Dannfeld, *Deputy Head of the Middle East Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden*
- Annika Johansson, *Regional Water Coordinator, Swedish International Development Agency*

17:15-17:30 Presentation of Report on Water Scarcity & Drought in WANA

- **Jauad El Kharraz**, *The Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how in the Water sector, France* and **Alaa El-Sadek**, *National Water Research Center, Egypt*

17:30-18:30 Open Forum on 'Our Common Future' Plenary

After 19:30 Official Dinner [Details TBA]

TUESDAY, 18 MAY 2010

09:00-10:30 Social Cohesion in the WANA Region

The WANA region faces increasing social fragmentation, which is exacerbated by poverty, increased conflict and exceeding the environment's carrying capacity. How can the WANA region effectively deal with the divisions that weaken its social fabric in a multidimensional way? What are the mechanisms for fostering cohesion and inclusion as opposed to division and exclusion? What is the role of the state, civil society and social networks? Speakers in this session will put forth some answers and provide examples of networks, instruments and tools for enhancing social cohesion.

- **Maha Yahya (Chair)**, *Regional Advisor on Social Policy, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), Lebanon*
- **Amal Basha**, *Chairperson for Sisters Arab Forum for Human Rights, Yemen*
- **Hu Shaocong**, *Director of Developing Countries Studies Department of China Institute of International Studies, China*
- **Hossein Godazgar**, *Reader and Deputy Head of Department for the Study of Islam and Muslims, Al-Maktoum Institute, United Kingdom/Iran*
- **Jan Sadlak**, *Vice-Rector of the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Poland*
- **Zhou Nan-Zhao**, *President of UNESCO Asia-Pacific Network for International Education and Values Education & President, Chinese Council of Private Higher Education, China*

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-13:00 Break Out Groups: Formulating Action Plans

This is the third meeting of the focus groups to agree on a way forward and to formulate a concrete action-oriented plan with timelines, proposed partnerships and benchmarks.

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00

Mobilising the Third Sphere for Collective Action

El Hassan bin Talal has long called for the engagement of the third sphere of partnership between governments, the private sector and civil society in becoming shareholders of their future. What is the Third Sphere in the context of WANA? How can civil society be strengthened to enable them to be a real force and partner in influencing policy and change? What is the role of the Third Sphere in civic engagement and education for citizenship? In this panel discussion, speakers will address these questions and present their recommendations on how the Third Sphere can be activated to partner with the WANA Forum in working toward mutual objectives.

- **Salma Abbasi (Chair)**, Chairperson and CEO, e Worldwide Group and Associate Fellow, King's College London, Conflict, Security and Development Group, United Kingdom/United Arab Emirates
- **Nabila Hamza**, President of the Foundation For the Future (FFF)
- **Abdulsalam Haykal**, Founder and CEO of Transtek Information Systems and Haykal Media and President of the Syrian Young Entrepreneurs Association, Syria
- **Naseem Tarawnah**, General Manager of 7iber Inc, blogger, and social media enthusiast, Jordan
- **Savas Sahin**, Urban and Regional Planner, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Atılım University, Turkey
- **Ali Rabi**, International University of Iran, Farabi Institute of Higher Education, Middle East Citizens Assembly (MECA), Iran
- **Mohsen Marzouk**, Secretary-General, Arab Democracy Foundation, Qatar

16:00-16:30

Coffee Break

16:30-18:00

Conclusions of WANA Forum 2010 by Sultan Barakat, Forum Moderator**Response to Conclusions of WANA Forum 2010 by:**

- **Lakhdar Brahimi**, Former Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General and Foreign Minister of Algeria
- **Khalid bin Mohammed Al-Attiah**, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Acting Minister of Business and Trade, Qatar
- **Salma Abbasi**, Chairperson and CEO, e Worldwide Group and Associate Fellow, King's College London, Conflict, Security and Development Group
- **Mutsuyoshi Nishimura**, Special Advisor to the Cabinet of the government of Japan and former Ambassador in charge of global environment issues, Japan
- **Surin Pitsuwan**, Secretary General of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Closing Remarks by El Hassan bin Talal, WANA Forum Chairperson

WEDNESDAY, 19 MAY 2010**Field Visit to the Badia Region (Optional)**

In collaboration with the Badia Research & Development Centre (BRDC), this optional field visit is open to all. Pre-registration is required.

Participants will get a first-hand insight into the BRDC work of providing integrated solutions for resource management, community development and environmental conservation and management in Jordan's arid and semi-arid areas (the Badia) where the annual rainfall is less than 200 millimetres.