

## **EDITORIAL**

### **Caught between Genoa and Doha: Will Beirut become the next anti-WTO battlefield?**

*Written by Omar Traboulsi*

A large coalition of Lebanese, Arab and foreign non-governmental organisations has announced at the end of last month its intention to launch mass protests in Beirut and to organise in the Lebanese capital, an alternative world forum that will coincide with WTO next Doha conference. The announcement by the Arab NGO Network for Development (an umbrella grouping 45 organisations from 12 Arab countries), the Lebanese Gathering around WTO and representatives of foreign organisations that belong to the world anti-globalisation movement was made in a press conference that was organised as part of a one-day preparatory meeting of the three main concerned parties, which was also held in Beirut.

In attendance at that prep meeting, was a limited number of Lebanese NGO representatives as well as a few representatives of Arab and foreign organisations.

The parallel world NGO forum will be held on the 6, 7 and 8 November, just one day before that of WTO, which is scheduled to open on 9 November in Doha.

The organisers of the world NGO forum explained that the holding of that event is part of the growing world movement opposed to the supremacy of the giant international multinational companies and their domination of world trade together with a handful of mighty countries. The movement calls for the reform and adjustment of world trade agreements so as to render them more fair and balanced and to integrate a clearer development vision that will allow a more just distribution of resources around the world.

For its part, the Lebanese Gathering includes the following organisations and bodies: Collective of Lebanese NGOs, Lebanese NGO Forum, Grouping of Lebanese NGOs Operating in the Palestinian Camps, Lebanese Women Council, Lebanese Committee for Women Rights, Union of Lebanese Disabled People, National Association for the Rights of the Disabled, Grassroots, Agricultural Labour Trade Union, South Lebanon Farmers, and Union of Mutual Funds of Lebanon. Foreign organisations taking part in the Lebanese event included some prominent and well-known anti-globalisation organisations such as ATTAC, URFIG, Friends of the Earth, and Public Citizen (an American consumer group headed by Ralph Nader).

In its press conference, the Coalition identified the following objectives for the International Forum (IF):

- Organisation of popular discussion meetings in various parts of the country around WTO and around challenges confronting developing countries, the Arab world and Lebanon.
- Convening more focused and professional meetings to discuss WTO related and other development issues.
- Preparing a communication plan for those activities to be organised on this occasion.
- Setting up of a media centre to follow up on all the activities related to parallel international NGO forum as well as WTO Doha conference.

The convenors of the IF also released a general platform prepared by the Lebanese - vis WTO and the Doha conference. Because of its centrality in the forthcoming developments, it is important to shed some lights on this platform.

understanding and view of the surrounding context, b) its demands, and c) its planned activities.

The context section briefly describes the overall international environment particularly the current unfair trade terms between on one side the multinationals and leading economic powers and on the other the developing world including Arab countries. It touches on the

It then moves on to briefly describe the economic state of the Arab countries and goes on to outline the challenges to Lebanon resulting from globalisation.

Moving to the demands articulated in the Lebanese platform the following could be noted:

*At the international level:*

- Halting further expansion of WTO scope of action to other sectors of serious livelihoods, social and economic consequences on developing countries and civil societies,
- Protecting rights and social provisions,
- Reconsidering intellectual property rights terms that work to the disadvantage of developing countries,
- Scrapping the agreements covering agriculture,
- Giving more attention to the difficulties confronting developing countries in meeting the challenges posed by globalisation of the economy and trade,
- Reviewing WTO internal mechanisms and conflict resolution procedures so as to render them more transparent and democratic.

*At the Arab level:*

- Exert more efforts to achieve economic integration and to boost investment, development, scientific and technological research as well as the implementation of political and social reform measures based on a different concept of development that will focus on participatory, human centred and sustainable development.

*At the Lebanon level:*

- Carrying out a bold and critical review of present economic policies particularly issues such as privatisation, subsidies for agricultural product, custom tariffs for protecting national produces, protection for national companies and labour force, adoption of taxation policies that bring out a more just income distribution, social welfare and health policies,
- Undertaking a comprehensive economic and political review that will bring in sweeping political and administrative reforms.

With the above in mind and somewhat from a distance, one is stimulated to raise a number of questions and points:

- It is indeed a positive and commendable venture for Lebanese NGOs to raise the issue of WTO and globalisation on the occasion of the Doha conference. Of equally high importance is what seems to be until now an open attitude by the Lebanese government vis- vis NGOs becoming active in advocacy of such major political implication.
- It is important to explore how the process of preparation in terms of actual NGO involvement can be expanded. Although a large number of NGOs have in principle been part of that initiative attendance at the prep meeting was limited, and several key players seem to have been excluded.
- A review of the platform begs the question of how far discussions have taken place in depth over both Arab related and Lebanese specific subjects and what agreements can be reached beyond the general bullet points stated in the platform and which are only starting points for discussions. How to ensure that these discussions produce viable alternative policies to those currently in effect?

- The international movement in protest of WTO policies or anti-globalisation action is perceived to be extremely heterogeneous and encompassing a wide range of actors with diverse ideological affinities and roots. It is only fair to assume that in Lebanon, such diversity is also to be found.
- What strategies should be pursued to bring down the debate to the general public and particularly to the grassroots level so as to build on the views of marginalised and excluded social categories and impoverished communities?
- The present anti-WTO initiative should herald the beginning of an endogenous and longer term developing process of NGO and public involvement in such debates rather than a limited or punctual action tied to the Doha conference. For this, a long term strategy involving broad and representative sections of the public need to be developed.

*MONITORING OF CIVIL RIGHTS DEVELOPMENT*

➤ **The Ratification of a Criminal Procedure Law**

The Lebanese Parliament, in its legislative session held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2001, has promulgated a new Criminal Procedure Law with an 81-majority vote. Sources in the legal as well as parliamentary field, view this step as both qualitative and progressive step on the road to respecting Human Rights and promoting the Judiciary. The Law also included the amendment of the death penalty and the regulation of measures related to temporary legal investigative arrests, search warrants, interrogation in the presence of a lawyer and other aspects that might incur the violation of legal civil rights. (Al-Nahar, 27/7/2001)

The promulgation of the Law was preceded by strong civil and legal lobbying in demand of the abolition of Capital Punishment and for the respect of human rights. This included a protest in front of the Parliament House, organized by the National Campaign against Capital Punishment which wa  
-Diyar, 26/7/2001)

On another note, a number of civil and humanitarian associations organized a series of activities on the occasion of the International Day Against Torture. The Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for the victims of torture held an exhibition at the UNESCO Palace for the occasion, which included photographs, posters and documents that attest to the torture inflicted on detainees in Israeli prisons and in other parts of the world. (Assafir, 25/6/2001)

violence also organized an open meeting, at the Gibran Garden facing the UN house, during which they revealed the names of the countries on the list of Human Rights violations, as well as the various torture tools and companies that manufacture them. The assembly called on the international and local communities to deploy pressure in order to curb infringements of Human Rights Treaty. The meeting was attended by a representative of Amnesty International and a press official from ESCWA.

Violence and Torture, held a conference on the Treaty Against Torture, under the title of

Union, Mr. George Houran, spoke of the importance of the new Criminal Procedure Law recently ratified by the Parliament, and deputy Kayssar Moawad called for the dissemination of

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The Parliamentarian Administrative and Judicial Committee approved a law proposal that aims at eliminating discrimination against women civil service employees in the laws and regulations of the Labor Code. Women will become thus equal to men as to the retirement or service discharge indemnities. The Committee also agreed that married women employees should benefit, along with their families, from the advantages offered by the Civil Service Employees Cooperative, in the same percentages and levels as male employees. Deputy Al Daher clarified in his statement that indemnities, while the husband of a female employee would inherit nothing. Nowadays, both women and men employees are treated equally, especially in terms of family compensations fo

the different allocations and services offered by these cooperatives. This proposal was approved, and we consider this to be a giant step forward to establishing equality between women and men government employees in all their rights, which were usually given only to  
*(Al Mustakbal, 19/6/2001)*

Consequently, the National Gathering for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women approved a work strategy for the coming period, which includes demands for the elimination of all legal clauses discriminating against women in the Labor Code or the Charter of Employees. The Gathering has already proposed earlier this year the amendment of clauses 149 and 173 related to benefits and services. The amendments were ratified subsequently through a law proposal submitted by Deputy Bahia Hariri on 21/4/2001, whereby women employees are given the right to benefit, as well as her husband and children, from medical coverage and services, in addition to scholarships. Ms. Mary Dibs, member of the Gathering, also reported, during a meeting called for in order to discuss dev  
Gathering approved a large communication campaign targeting deputies and high officials, as well as launching a campaign within and beyond Beirut in collaboration with local NGOs in order to explain the achievements and organize a number of seminars focusing on the importance of these steps. In case these law proposals are approved, the Gathering will move forward and will target schools, high schools and ministries at the beginning of the coming school year in order to explain the practical dimensions of implementing these new  
*(Al Mustakbal, 22/6/2001)*

Finally, the Women Council also organized a sit-in in front of the Headquarters of the Cabinet demanding the right of women to be nominated for Class A administrative positions. The Council declared its readiness to pursue its action if these nominations are not approved promptly.

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The Parliamentary Committee for Mother and Child ratified the International Treaty No. 182, issued in 1999, banning the worst types of child labor. On the same occasion, the committee pledged to enforce the law on compulsory education in the primary levels. The ratification was agreed upon during a session held by Deputy Nayla Moawad, who ascertained t  
duty that every child should attend school up to 12 years of age. Parents who refrain from sending their children, especially their daughters to school should be fined, because most of

enforcement of the International Treaty will necessitate that the Lebanese Government allocates additional funds in particular fields; we also call upon the international community and ask them to confer more aids to Lebanon in order to enforce and implement the ban on child  
*(Al Mustakbal, 29/6/2001)*

organized by the Armenian Cross Association, to the results of a study led by the Ministry of

Social Affaires, and based on a survey of population and residential units carried out in the mid-nineties, and which estimated the number of working children in 1996 at 43 thousands, aged between 10 to 18 years. The study stressed that working children make up to 4.6% of the labor force in Lebanon. The Minister highlighted some of the social and demographic characteristics of these children:

- a. 94% of working children are Lebanese;
- b. 87.5% approximately of working children are male, compared to 12.5% female;
- c. The rate of illiteracy among working children (10-18 years old) is estimated at 11.5%: those who know how to read and write only count up to 21.6%, thus complete illiterate children or semi-literate children constitute 33.1%.
- d. Working children belong to families with low living conditions;
- e. The fields where working children are likely to be present impose heavy stress and constitute a threat to their physical health, growth and development. They work for example in construction, electric installations, mining and stone cutting.
- f. Economic necessity is the main reason for child labor in 50% of the cases. 3% only are working in order to acquire a skill and 14% in order to ensure personal income.
- g. Child labor is closely related to poor school performance and school dropouts.

In terms of legislation, Minister Diab noted that the Labor Code has been amended in July 1996 amendments is the increase of the minimum age for working children, from 8 years old to 13 to monitor and verify the implementation of this law, to enforce fines and penalties on those who break it (*An-Nahar, 21/6/2001*)

For his part, the Minister of Internal Affairs and Municipalities, Elias El Murr, also issued an internal memorandum calling on all administrations and municipalities to participate and support the current new international children campaign by filling the required questionnaires and distributing advertisements on the subject. The memo was issued as part of the International Campaign launched by UNICEF which calls on Lebanese persons to define 3 priorities of needs for children, in preparation for a special world conference children to be held at the UN Headquarters in New York, between 19 and 21 September 2001, as part of a 10-year strategic plan. (*An-Nahar, 17/7/2001*)

Finally, in a positive move to implement the rights of children, a father who went too far in beating his 11 years old child with his leather belt was sentenced to 20 days in prison. As for the legal texts allowing parents the punishment of their children for their discipline, the ruling judge argued that punishment

(*As-Safir, 18/7/2001*)

#### ➤ **The Implementation of the Disability Bill of Rights**

MP Ali Bazzi has questioned the cabinet over the implementation of clauses 85 and 86 of the decree number 220 (dated 29/5/2001) and pertaining to the rights and benefits of people with disabilities. The Ministry of Finance responded that it was in the process of putting in place the necessary implementation mechanisms particularly in relation to clause 85 of the decree. For its part, the Ministry of Interior has indicated that it has sent out instructions for the appropriate implementation of clause 86 of the bill which stipulates a taxation waiver on the following:

- Vehicles owned by a person with disability holder of a valid disability ID card or owned individually or collectively by her/his father, mother, or adult children and upon receiving an appropriate reference from the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- One vehicle owned by an association for/of disabled persons and given appropriate references by the Ministry of Social Affairs. The Ministry will need to ensure that the association in question is active and works within the framework of its official registration as well as its by-laws and internal constitution. (*Al Safir, 14/7/2001*)

For its part, the Ministry of Social Affairs has announced that it has moved its services for granting the special disability ID from the Abou Samra rehabilitation institute in Tripoli to the Health Centre affiliated to the Ministry of Health in Bab el Tebbaneh as of Monday 2 July 2001. (*Al Moustakbal*, 26/6/2001)

The Ministry of Interior also issued a circular with instructions calling for the reinforcement of parking regulations for people with disabilities. Some municipalities for their part have introduced parking and accessibility facilities for people with disabilities. The Ministry of General Works and Transport has set up in coordination with certain municipalities some special bus stops for people with disabilities. (*Al Moustakbal* 24/7/2001)

On a related matter, visually impaired students were able for the first time to pass their official exams in Braille language. After years of suffering from exclusion and poorly adapted teaching aids, the new curriculum now provides tests and exams on Braille with further usage of the Visio-Braille computer system, which allows visually impaired students to access any text or document through a special coding system.

This unprecedented event follows years of preparations by both the Ministry of Education as well as various NGOs and associations of blind people. The Al Hadi Institution for Visual and Hearing impairment was selected as the pilot location center for these special exams which were attended by 11 baccalaureate students and 26 complementary level students who came from Al Hadi, Baabda School for the Blind, IRAP, and Father Roberts Institute. To be noted that hearing-impaired students were also provided with specially equipped rooms for their exams. (*Al Safir*, 3/7/2001)

➤ **Air pollution caused by diesel fumes and dire livelihood conditions of taxi drivers still awaiting government action**

The official grace period of 6 months granted by the cabinet to taxi drivers to replace their noxious diesel engines with regular fuel engines has now expired. This decision had prompted massive demonstrations from the part of taxi drivers as well as environmentalists. The Minister of Environment, Dr. Michel Moussa, indicated that part of the solution to the problem of air pollution lies in decreasing the number of service/taxi cars. He reiterated that the issue of diesel engines has been raised in view of the hazardous effects on the environment as well as on health and tourism. In a meeting with environment NGOs as well as with consumer groups, Moussa stated that the grace period of 6 months was in fact too long and should be decreased while providing incentives for those taxi drivers who replace their motors earlier. (*Al Moustakbal*, 7/7/2001)

Environment groups and NGOs have issued statements in support of the government decisions to ban diesel motors, in addition to the organization of sit ins and meetings with MPs and cabinet ministers. They have also indicated the need to look at the economic and livelihood implications on taxi drivers. The union of taxi drivers has expressed for its part its anger with the decision and has accused the Minister of the Environment as well as the environment

union said that pollution is due to other forms of transports, namely buses and vans, as well as to quarries and the lack of any form of organisation of transport services. (*Al Moustakbal*, 7/7/2001)

A Parliamentary commission has endorsed on 19/7/2001 a law proposal aiming at curbing pollution due to transportation. The law prohibits the import of diesel operated engines and vehicles. For their part, the joint Parliamentary committees have on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2001, promulgated a draft law on pollution control resulting from transport vehicles. The Law in question prohibits the import of diesel for pick-up trucks and buses and restricted the import of fuel-run engines. The law also included a number of measures and controls aimed at regulating

public transportation and limiting pollution. A legal period was set for the implementation of the above-mentioned measures.

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Mehieddine, publicly denounced the law issued by the joint parliamentary committees. He declared that it was tantamount to a death sentence for taxi drivers and called on deputies to reconsider the law and adopt a new law that is fair to all drivers in the transportation business. (Assafir, 24/7/2001)

➤ **Mobilisation on the issue of Baalbek/Hermel Development accelerate debate on comprehensive development**

The latest parliamentary debate over development plans and their budgetary implications including the setting up of a development council for the Baalbek/Hermel region has led to highlighting on the Parliamentary agenda the overall issues related to poor areas, their development needs and the resources necessary for that purpose. The Parliamentary commission headed by MP Issam Fares who has been entrusted with the task of developing blueprints for the setting up of a special directorate for poor and marginalised areas within the CDR, has come up with a proposal including four geographical branches for the said directorate namely: Baalbek/Hermel, Akkar/Dinnyeh/Becharre, and two other areas. The necessary funding should be procured through soft loans as well as from the revenues of 2001 and 2002 budgets. It is to be recalled that during the latest parliamentary discussions of the national budget, MPs from the Baalbek/Hermel region brought forward the development needs of their region and requested the government to allocate an amount of 300 billion LBP to be spent over a 5 years period on development and service provision projects for their region. Other parliamentary blocks also requested the allocation of similar amounts for their respective regions. (*Al Moustakbal*, 2 July 2001)

Prime Minister Hariri headed a meeting with MPs representing the region of Baalbek/Hermel, the Director of the Council of Development and Reconstruction (CDR) as well as with engineers and experts from the Council, and General Directors of the Ministries of General Advisor, Mr. Fadi Fawwaz. The meeting discussed the three years development plan, which the CDR has been entrusted with its elaboration in co-ordination with the relevant Ministries. The cost of this plan is expected to reach 750 million US Dollars and will cover various projects including the provision of water for domestic consumption and for irrigation, the setting up of dams and artificial lakes, septic tanks, roads and other infrastructure projects. Prime Minister Hariri clarified the timetable for the execution of the project and ensured that necessary funds will be made available. (*Al Dyar*, 30/7/2001)

➤ **Progress in implementation of the National Reforestation Plan**

Following the announcement of a new National Reforestation plan which will extend over a period of 5 years with a budget of 1 billion LBP per year, the Ministry of Environment has developed an action plan for implementation which includes the following:

- Organisation of a workshop in mid July in collaboration with the Union of Tree Nursery Farmers and with the participation of environmental NGOs, development NGOs and agricultural engineers and other experts in forestry and reforestation. After 4 days of deliberations, a series of important recommendations were released and were published in *Al Mustakbal* and *Al Nahar* as well as in other newspapers.
- The set up of a special committee for the development of the national reforestation plan. The committee has already started its work with meetings with a number of municipalities, key officials, and with a number of key experienced associations with expertise and skills in small reforestation so as to develop a clear plan which will be submitted to the cabinet. The NGO group

included: Council of Environment-Qibliyyat, Association for the Protection of the Forestry Development and Protection in Ramlieh, Association for Rural Development-Aarsal, Rene Mouawad Foundation, and Greenline.

## NGO NEWS

### ➤ **Confessionalism: an impediment to civil action according to the National Commission for Lebanese Child**

The National Commission for Lebanese Child held its annual retreat at the St Michael school in Zouk Mikael, at the invitation of Sister Adele Samaha. The closed meeting was chaired by the Head of the retreat commission, Ms. Leyla Haddad, in the presence of the Beirut Central Body and branch representatives from various Lebanese regions. The purpose of the retreat was to appraise the annual work of the Commission and to draw a preliminary action plan for the coming year. The main results were:

- Reiterate the importance of qualified tutors in charge of raising and educating children, who should be versed in the modern educational methods. A solid knowledge of the national history is also required in addition to other competence involving health, environment, economic and social affairs.
- Promote civil action, which is confronted today to obstacles that are part of the present reality: confessionalism, sectarianism and disunity. Moreover, it is important to try and avoid overlap in civil and voluntary action, as well as lack of coordination and non-acceptance the work of others.
- Support the Higher Council for Children and to contribute to it effectiveness
- Improve relations between the United Nations Agencies and the NGOs concerned with child welfare. The relationship should be developed so as to support a joint comprehensive plan of action.
- Underline the need to overcome discrepancies and legal loopholes in implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Lebanon is committed.
- Develop relations with the regional and Arab institutions in view of exchanging information, expertise and aid. (An-Nahar, 17/7/2001)

### ➤ **The National Document on National Population Policies**

Dr. Riad Tabbarah, the Head of the Permanent National Population Commission, has expressed his belief that the adoption of the National Document for population policies will lead to unleashing practical measures and programmes for population development in Lebanon before the end of the current year. Dr. Tabbarah, also added that enticing investors for developmental plans requires that the latter be based on detailed studies and policies. The statement by Dr. Tabbarah was made at the occasion of a common workshop, organized in collaboration between the Lebanese Family Planning Association and the National Population Commission endorsed by the UN Population Fund, and which representatives of various organizations, experts and officials attended from the Ministry of Social Affairs. Moreover, Dr. Tabbara explained that international aid for population programmes can help establish 88 centres; either directly affiliated to the Ministry of Social Affairs or indirectly through contracts with civil society institutions. 30 to 50 thousands individuals are likely to benefit from each of these centers.

On his part and at another occasion, the Minister of Social Affairs, underlined the importance of the role of the Permanent National Commission on Population and for the elaboration of the national population policy document in Lebanon. The latter was recently completed and

submitted to the Council of Ministers, in view of its endorsement within the context of the h different issues and population related problems.

institutions that deal directly with population issues. Efforts were started in 1987 with the creation of the first Parliamentary Commission on Population, in 1993, the Lebanese government created a temporary committee entrusted with studying population related issues in Lebanon and for preparing for the ICPD conference in Cairo (Cairo/Egypt 1994). The same temporary committee was given permanent status by virtue of a government decree in 1994 and was designated with the following tasks:

- Incite the interest of the public opinion on population issues; to raise awareness on their economic, social, and educational as well as to suggest solutions.
- Collect studies, and research on the subject and adequately disseminate information.
- Propose population policies concomitant with the general National Policy; to collect and analyse necessary data and use it to evaluate the results of the proposed policies.
- Coordinate with the UN Population Fund and other UN agencies; and pursue all the recommendations that might be acceptable to the Lebanese Government.
- Pursue the recommendations issued by International & Regional Conferences on Population issues and to coordinate with the concerned ministry in order to ensure the commitment of the Lebanese state for implementation.
- Pursue all issues related to Population and to control their application in Lebanon (in collaboration with the concerned Ministries and civil society bodies).
- Undertake all tasks entrusted to it by the Council of Ministers and not mentioned herein.

The Minister also explained that the Commission is formed of:

- The Minister of Social Affairs, acting Minister
- The Director General of the Ministry of Social Affairs, vice-president
- Representatives of ministries, official administration and civil society associations concerned with population issues (this amounts to 21 ministries, official administration and civil society bodies)
- Coordinating expert in addition to 8 experts in the different population related fields.
- A technical secretariat entrusted with carrying out the directives of the concerned parties.

The Minister also pointed out to the main axis of interest in the National Document which constitutes a point of entry to the practical plan of population policy and which is prepared and executed in collaboration between the Ministries, the official administrations, the civil society associations, both local and international, concerned with population issues. He added that the above mentioned also included:

- Introducing the concept of population policy and illustrating the relationship between population policies and development in general.
- Displaying the population situation in Lebanon and the priorities of the Population Policy.
- Displaying the reality of Reproductive Health and Family Planning in Lebanon; determining the strategies of a population policy in that regard, whilst underlying the importance of raising awareness on Reproductive Health and improving the quality of its services.
- Illustrating the reality of the age composition in the Lebanese population that shows a decrease in the youth bracket (0 to 14 years) in the age population pyramid and an increase in the elderly (65 years and above)
- Equality between the sexes, giving justice to women and building their capacities
- The issue of internal migration and the geographic distribution of the population along the various regions
- Emigration
- Environment
- Media and education in the area of population
- Institutional framework for statistics and research.

Minister Diab also declared in a press conference that a series of analytical studies has been published, on the results of the statistical population survey carried out by the Ministry of

Social Affairs in collaboration with the UNFPA. The series is of six volumes, 5 of which have been published with the sixth to be released with the coming 2 months. (*Al Mustakbal*, 10/7/01)

➤ **A guide to lending organizations for small profits: A new publication by the Ministry of Social Affairs**

European Union. The guide includes information on existing loan programmes and lending institutions for small and micro enterprises. Useful guidelines and hints are provided for individuals involved with small and micro enterprises or with ideas to develop including information about the various types of loans available as well as how to access the most appropriate lending institution/credit facility. The guide is complemented with a glossary of basic financial terminology.

Minister of Social Affairs, Dr. Assad Diab, stated that this is the third guide to be produced by the Ministry following the guide to associations for/of disabled persons as well as the guide of local artisans and crafts people. The Minister reiterated the important role of the family in social and economic development. Women, according to the Minister, can play a key social, educational and economic role if their productive capacities are supported. The Minister also

overwhelming majority are available in Beirut and Baabda. This is a reflection of the current no longer able to fulfil a social and economic role on its own and NGOs and civil society

Mr. Kamal Hamdan described the study, which covered some 22 institutions and NGOs providing 33 credit and lending programmes. The study revealed that there are 13 NGOs which have in total some 70 branches outside the capital most of which were set up as of 1992. The most important cluster remains in Beirut and its vicinity. The size of credits on offer vary between USD 500 to USD 2000. However, 60% of credits range in size between USD 2000 to 6000. Repayment period varies between 4 to 48 months with 54% of these having a repayment period of 12 months. The total number of credits granted amounted to 25203 in various economic sectors mostly agriculture and crafts. The average interest rate was found to be 11.6% with a wide discrepancy amongst various associations and programmes. Hamdan also pointed out that some programmes require a contribution of 10 to 30% from the part of the beneficiary whilst others require collateral the most important of which being the personal guarantor. The procedure for acceding to a loan included the procurement of certain legal documents, an economic feasibility study, a field visit, as well as training workshops. Examining applications requires a minimum of 30 days, after which applicants are either transferred to other financial institutions or are granted credits in cash or in kind. International aid agencies are the main funders of lending programmes followed by local banks. Of the lending institutions, only two followed up on the loans through studying its impact on the living standards of the beneficiaries. (*Al Mustakbal*, 17/7/2001)

➤ **A regional evaluation meeting of a joint NARD/ MEDA programme**

Dr. Assad Diab, Minister of Social Affairs, and his Syrian counterpart, Minister Bareea al Kudsy,

the training workshops which have been implemented within the framework of the MEDA Training on Democracy programme (2000/2001) and which have been held in Lebanon and Syria by the National Association for the Rights of Disabled Persons and the Thomson Foundation. The meeting was also attended by the European Union represented by HEM Dimitri Kourkoulas.

The coordinator of the workshops, Ms. Jahda Abou-Khalil, started the meeting by reiterating that all participants agreed that the workshops were very useful and more of them should be

done in the future with the introduction of new topics. The workshops were organised over an 11 months period and covered the following topics:

- ICT training (for associations in Lebanon and Jordan)
- Dealing with the Media (for associations from Syria and Jordan)
- Designing brochures and publications (for associations from Syria and Jordan)
- Leadership and management (for associations from Lebanon, Syria and Jordan)
- Introducing the concepts of human rights in the media (for associations from Lebanon and Jordan)

Mr. Kourkoulas indicated that the cost of these training workshops totalled EURO 300,000 and aimed at developing administrative and ICT capacities and promoting the links between NGOs and the media through the training of young journalists from beneficiary countries who will in turn cover topics related to children, the youth, women, disability and the media which are not given priority by the media. The EU MEDA programme also aims at promoting democracy and implementing the basic principles of the Barcelona accord over the Euromed partnership.

➤ **Dar el Fatwa launches campaign in support of Palestinians**

currently being carried out in the Arab world among Arab committees in other parts of the world in support of Palestinian people.

... e collaborating with associations in Palestine for the implementation of rehabilitation, relief and development projects. The campaign has been launched under the auspices of its international president Cheikh Youssef el Cordawi and aims at preserving the capacities and infrastructure of the Palestinian people, providing work opportunities for Palestinian labour who have lost their sources of income following the Al Aqsa Intifada, and promote the health social and education associations in 101 days campaign will be implemented through Palestinian charitable NGOs in West Bank and Gaza in collaboration with relevant bodies. (*Al Nahar, 22/6/2001*)

➤ **The Hariri Foundation launches two new health centres**

The health and social directorate of the Hariri Foundation has set up 2 new community health centres in Saida and Ain el Helwe. This follows the opening of 6 centres in Beirut and one in which will also include Akkar, Dynnyieh, Tripoli, Bar Elias and the Bekaa. The director of the comparative advantage is in their focus on family medicine as well as their reliance on of individual magnetic ID card which include all information including health and medical information, medical record as well as other information. Since both new centres in Saida are networked, patients will be able to attend to either one of the two with the help of their individual magnetic cards.

The Hariri Foundation official revealed that 35,000 people are presently in position of magnetic cards, and that health services provided during the last 18 months reached around 300,000 services. (*Al Mustakbal, 28/7/2001*)

➤ **families**

The Mother and Child Association of Beirut issued a statement outlining its achievements to date. The Association declared that it presently provides social assistance to around 2000 needy families, notwithstanding the families of its employees. The amount of money it has spent in the first half term of the current year on social, medical and educational aid has reached an estimated 70 million LBP. The Association also, gave statistical details on the

number of patients that has benefited from its health services: Some 3000 patients were treated for different ailments, medical training was provided for 60 students and a successful vaccination campaign has benefited more than 1420 children within a period of 45 days. (*Al-Moustakbal*, 17/7/2001)

➤ **Caritas Budget for 2001/2002 set at 13 million USD**

Caritas-Liban held its general assembly meeting in its headquarters in Sin el Fil to discuss its budget forecast for 2001/2002. The meeting was attended by the members of the

economic

budget for the year 2001/2002 was set at 19 billion and 892 LBP allocated as follows:

-1 billion and 754 million for health programmes

-1 billion and 684 million for social programmes

-627 million for educational programmes

-5 billion and 500 million for development programmes notably in the area of Jezzine

-4 billion for business loans. (*Al Mustakbal*, 1/7/2001)

On the other hand, Father Madi met with General Prosecutor Judge Adnan Adoum upon the

disseminating information rather than making profit. According to sources quoted in the local media, the head of the bureau of criminal investigations brigadier Ibrahim Jabbour interrogated the technical director of GOL who stated that the company enjoys legal authorization from former Minister of Information, Issam Naaman, which grants it the privilege to access the

providing scientific and cultural services in addition to transmitting research findings as well as religious c

tolerance. He also emphasized that although state of the art technology equipment have already been imported, yet has frozen the legal procedures requesting the implementation of the authorization formerly granted by Naaman. (*Al-Hayat*, 1/7/2001)

➤ **Amendments of the internal by-laws of the Social and Economic Council to encourage civil participation**

The general assembly of the social and economic council met on 27/6/2001 to discuss the proposed amendments of its internal by-laws and review the mechanisms of work of the -committee.

ious sectors of civil society have the opportunity to contribute to the formulation of social and economic policies and in order to enhance and foster dialogue, collaboration and coordination as well as promote the work of sub-committees and the process of decision making. The members present approved the (*Al Nahar*, 27/6/2001)

➤ **Rehabilitation International First Disability Conference to be held in Beirut next September**

The Arabic branch of Rehabilitation International, the World Rehabilitation Fund, and the National Centre for Development and Rehabilitation in Lebanon are organising in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Health and ESCWA as well as with a number of UN organisations and NGOs from Lebanon and abroad an international conference on

palace in Beirut. The Conference will be held under the patronage of the President of the Republic and will include meetings of the Rehabilitation International General Assembly as well as its executive committees. This is the first time that such meetings are held in an Arab country since the establishment of RI in 1922. (*As Safir*, 23/7/2001)

➤ **Greenline celebrates its tenth anniversary**

Greenline held a gala dinner at the Roman baths in downtown Beirut to celebrate its tenth anniversary. The dinner hosted artist Jamal Aboul Hosn and included a village dinner. The president of the association, Ali Darwish, presented a speech which focused on the achievements of the association as well as its future plans. A documentary film was presented featuring interviews with members of the association. (*Al Moustakbal*, 2/7/2001)

➤ **First Conference for the Arab NGOs Network**

1200 NGOs will attend on 4 September the first conference Arab NGOs Network which will be held in Beirut. (*As Safir*, 6/7/2001)

➤ **Joint workshop for NGOs in Nabatieh**

The Forum of NGOs operating in Nabatieh has organised in collaboration with the South Lebanon Blind Association a training workshop within the framework of the Community Based Rehabilitation Programme. The workshop will be held every Saturday for a three months period at the Kamal Jaber Cultural centre in Nabatieh. (*Al Nahar*, 2/7/2001)

➤ **Ministerial amendments on youth and sports law of association halted in midstream**

A meeting of a ministerial committee chaired by deputy prime Minister Issam Fares and entrusted with the study of a project of law aimed at subjecting all youth and sports associations to the supervisory authority of the Ministry of Youth and Sports was suspended in midstream. A comparative study of both the currently applied law and the draft of the (*Nahar Ashabab*, 17/7/2001)

**GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES    INTERNATIONAL AID**

➤ **Collective lobbying by NGOs holding contracts with the MOSA**

A committee representing the recently set up National Union of NGOs holding contracts with the Ministry of Social Affairs presided by Taoufic Osseiran (president) and including Nabil Shandar (general secretary) as well as members of the administrative board have met with Dr. Assad Diab, Minister of Social Affairs, and MP Walid Jumbat. The NGO coalition raised concerns over the abrupt annulment of contractual agreements with MOSA whereby more than 550 NGO employees paid through these agreements have been informed directly by MOSA that their contract will be terminated as of June 2001 without any prior consultation with the coalition, a matter which the latter has found to be in violation of laws and procedures in effect. The National Union asked the Minister for a clear position vis- -vis these contractual agreements as well as to share the results of an evaluation of these contracts, which was launched by MOSA some 6 months ago.

the National Union and for his support to its demands for halting any budgetary reductions for the year 2001 and for mobilising NGOs in the Chouf to join the coalition. Concurrently, when queried during a visit to Koura about the issue of notification for dismissal targeting NGO workers paid under MOSA contracts, Minister Diab assured all parties that this is not likely to happen. (*Al Nahar*, 19/7/2001)

➤ **First issue of MOSA Social Bulletin**

Issue number one of the Social Bulletin of the Ministry of Social Affairs has just been released (*Jissr al Tawassoul*). This first issue includes key addresses by

amongst others:

- The former Lebanese detainees in Israeli prisons
- The disability bill: current proposal for implementation
- Volunteer work programme during the summer of 2001
- A field report on the MOSA community centre of Bourj Hammoud and on the Maison

➤ **Ministry of Environment grants to non-profit organisations**

The Ministry of Environment issued a statement announcing its intention to fund environmental projects carried out by non-profit organisations (e.g. natural reserves, environmental NGOs,

For more information, please contact the information and counselling offices: 04/522222/525151, extension 437/433. The deadline for submissions has been set on July 25. (*Al Safir*, 7/7/2001)

➤ **American Aid to Lebanon resumed notwithstanding Congress hurdle**

In a sudden and unexpected move, and notwithstanding its earlier objections, the US congress approved the disbursement of the balance of USD 20 million grant to Lebanon in fulfillment of a total grant of USD 35 million. To be reminded that in issue number 0 of this bulletin, we had pointed out to the US congress vote, which ended all aid to Lebanon pending the deployment of the Lebanese army along the border with Israel within a period of 6 months.

The US Ministry of Foreign Affairs had informed Congress last month of its intention to disburse this grant. The legal period of 15 days during which Congress could have objected to this decision had elapsed thus lifting any possible hurdle for the disbursement of the US aid. (*Al Safir*, 20/6/2001)

agreed to send to Lebanon some 100 thousand tons of agricultural product from its 2001 budget. Proceeds from the sales of these products will be used to implement development projects in poor rural areas of Lebanon, to disburse educational grants, and to support various programmes of the American University of Beirut and the Lebanese American University. Income from sales will depend on the current market value of the products, which will primarily include wheat. It is to be noted that in 2000, Lebanon received 73 thousand tons of US agricultural products including wheat and soy oil. (*Al Nahar*, 23/7/2001)

➤

The director of USAID in Lebanon visited the Credit Libanais bank branch in Bourj al Barajneh following the launch of the Amin small credits programmes in collaboration with Credit Libanais and with the support of USAID. The project is being implemented by Cooperative Housing Fund, an international organisation involved in economic development with various projects in Lebanon. (*Al Nahar*, 19/7/2001)

nurseries situated in the Palestinian camps. The programme had been implemented in close

*Annahar, 26/6/2001)*

➤ **Funding granted by the Japanese Embassy to Lebanese NGOs**

The Japanese Embassy in Lebanon publicly released the list of grant funding to various NGO programmes during the current year. Grants were apportioned as such:

<b>Name of Organization:</b>	<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Area of Implementation:</b>
National Association for the Rights of the Disabled	Publishing Equipment	Beirut
Green Future	Forest Rehabilitation	Jezzine (Southern Lebanon)
Jezzine Agricultural Coop	Farming equipment	Jezzine (Southern Lebanon)
Local Council for the Disabled	Purchase of a transportation bus for the disabled	Bourj Al-Barajneh
Economic and Cultural Development Association	Medical equipment	Khiam
Organization in Btekhmay	Medical equipment	Btekhmay (Higher Metn)
Mercy Corps International	Rehabilitation of water storage	Kuneen (Southern Lebanon)
Amel Association	Medical equipment	Khiam (Southern Lebanon)
Armenian Cross Association	Purchase of an Ambulance	Beirut
Local Development Committee in Al-Ram Village	Rehabilitation of water systems	Al-Ram (Baalbek)
Local Development Committee in Al-Qadam Village	Rehabilitation of water systems	Al-Qadam (Baalbek)
Lebanese Institution for the Deaf and the Blind	Braille machine (under study)	Baabda
South Lebanon Blind Association	Optical Equipment and devices	Nabatieh (Southern Lebanon)
Mercy Corps International	Rehabilitation of an Elementary School	Shibaa (Southern Lebanon)

The listed grants totaled \$560,857 (US Dollars). It is also worthy to mention that total funding granted to Lebanese NGOs by the Japanese Embassy since 1996 amount to a total of \$1,515,075 (US Dollars). (*Annahar, 20/6/2001)*

➤ **A chart of the funds granted to Lebanese NGOs**

<b>Source:</b>	<b>Recipient:</b>	<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Type of Donation:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
Nayef Bassil Foundation	American University of Beirut	Nayef Bassil Center for Cancer	-Setting up and equipping the center -Administrative & research expenses, & patient coverage	2.7 Million US Dollars  200,000 US Dollars (annually)
French Development Association	St. Joseph University	Technological Pole	Loan from Audi Bank, and Lebanese Government credit facility	1.5 Million Euro
German Embassy	Beirut Arab University	Faculty of Engineering	Research equipment	30,000 Deutsche Marks
The International Wheelchair Foundation/USA & Holy Land Association for Relief & Development	- Mohammad Khaled Association - Sanabel Association - Collective of NGOs in Sidon - Islamic Association - Association for the Disabled in Nabatieh	Mobility aid for people with disabilities and war victims	500 wheelchairs	112,000 US Dollars
Japanese Embassy	Amel Association	Family Health Center in Khiam	Medical Equipment	83,000 US Dollars
Rotary Netherlands & Rotary Baabda	Sacred Mother Home / Hadath	Center for Physiotherapy	Fully equipped swimming pool for physical therapy	48,000 US Dollars
Canadian Embassy	Armenian Cross Association	Center for fruit - drying Anjar	Equipment, rehabilitation of the center & training sessions for 20 women	33,000 US Dollars
Japanese Embassy	Lebanese Institution for the Blind and the Deaf / Baabda	Improve blind academic level	Braille printer	33,000 US Dollars
The Lebanese Community in Brazil	Rene Moawad Foundation	Mobile clinics	Equipping 2 ambulance vehicles	20,000 US Dollars
Japanese Embassy	Cross Association for the Assistance of Armenians in Lebanon	-	Ambulance vehicle	-

**1. Al Nahda Welfare Association Registration 102/AD on 11/6/2001**

**Location:** El Fraydes, Hasbaya  
**Objectives:** Develop social, health and educational situations;  
Develop individuals socially and culturally;  
Carry out welfare activities, assist poor people and those in need;  
Assist students in their studies and university specializations;  
Attend to elderly people and children.

**Founders:**

Sahira Wahib Ghabar.

**Official Representative:**

yad Hilal

**Registration 104/AD on 12/6/2001**

**Location:** Tripoli, Municipality Street, Law office of Mr. Rashid Toufic El Derbas  
**Objectives:** Upgrade the level of writing and presenting poetry in the North, as an art;  
Implement a special poetry trend;  
Encourage young poets from the North and sponsor those exceptional;  
Complete the traditional poetic works;  
Establish a library specialized in poetry;  
Publish a monthly newsletter on poets and poetry;  
Publish the poetic works of members and their critiques on poetry;  
Exchange visits and experiences with poets from Lebanon and the Arab World;  
Organize a permanent annual festival for poets, animated by Lebanese and Arab poets, as per the laws and regulations in order and upon the approval of the Lebanese authorities.

**Founders:**

Rashid Toufic El Derbas, Abdel Fattah Khaled Akary, D. Muhammad Ahmad Qassem, Muhammad Suhail Rafic El Mir, D. Ahmad Salim EL Homsy.

**Official Representative:**

Mr Rashid Toufic El Derbas

**3. Lebanese Programming Association Registration 105/AD on 12/6/2001**

**Location:** El Shayah, Ambassies Street, Bi Hassan, Ahmad Haidar Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Baabda.

**Objectives:** The Association is active in the field of designing and developing programs in Lebanon as well as with production companies in this field. It sponsors and assists in their development and the setting up of their organizational framework. Its objectives include, among others:  
Invite programming companies presenting the necessary conditions to join the Association;  
Develop an atmosphere of cooperation and solidarity among Lebanese programming companies;  
Coordinate, organize and develop programming activities in Lebanon;

Organize and participate in seminars in Lebanon and abroad;  
Raise public awareness on the importance of Lebanese production in the field of programming; inform the public opinion of the role of this industry in developing the country. Act within the limits set by the law on improving the Lebanese commercial balance.

**Founders:** Fares Muhammad Hafez Qobaysi, Antoine Michel Azar,

Khodr Afif Khashkhash.

**Official Representative:** Fares Muhammad Hafez Qobaysi

#### **4. Rotary Byblos Jbeil - Registration 106/AD on 13/6/2001**

**Location:** Byblos, Sea Port, Tawila and Sfeir Building, Hotel *Byblos Sur Mer*.

**Objectives:** Expand the scope of acquaintances, allowing ways to serve;  
Acquire a high level of ethics at work and occupations, and appreciate every excellent work and honor every member for his/her work as a means to serve the community;  
Personal commitment of every member to hold on to perfection in his/her personal, professional and social life;  
Consolidate links among businesspersons and occupations joined by the ideal of perfection at work.

**Founders:** D. Kamal Rafic El Kallab, D. Charbel Tannous El Houry, Boulos Nassib Azar, D. Paul Jean Edde, Michel Gergi Azar Abi Saad.

**Official Representative:** Lawyer Boulos Nassib Azar

#### **5. Intellectual Forum Antelias Registration 107/AD on 13/6/2001**

**Location:** Antelias, Hall of the Church of Gabriel, Chief of Angels, Al Matn.

**Objectives:** Realize a true cultural Lebanese society;  
Assist specialized parties in presenting and protecting the local, national and human heritage.

**Founders:** Abdo Edouard Rubeiz, Athna Nuhad El Hajal, Yvette Anis El Dayeh, Elie Rizkallah Yammine, Fadia Geogrges Assi, Toufic Tannous Dib.

**Official Representative:** Abdo Edouard Rubeiz.

#### **6. Health and Life Association Registration 108/AD on 13/6/2001**

**Location:** El Kalaa, Saji Abou El Husn Building, Baabda.

**Objectives:** Raise public awareness on health issues using all material available;

Encourage and support preventive medicine in order to limit the spread of diseases in society, by providing means for early diagnosis.

Encourage and support school medicine;

Participate in encouraging the Public Opinion to donate organs after death in order to increase the number of donators, and thus the number of beneficiary, especially since this donation does not contradict any of the celestial religions;

Exert all efforts in order to limit the damages of environmental pollution on public health and the human body; Assist in the programs and activities organized by

environmental organizations;  
Work with other organizations to equip a medical center for the association in order to carry on its missions as best possible.

Coordinate completely with all associations sharing the same objectives, and take part in their different activities.  
All clauses are carried on under the rules and regulations in order and upon the approval of specialized authorities.

**Founders:**

El Kakoun, Linda Shahine Torbeih, Rafic Amine Makarem, Kamil Yasser EL Bana, D. Marouan Amine Rashid Abi

**Official Representative:**

**7. Dalifrand Alumni Association Registration 109/AD on 13/6/2001**

**Location:** Araya, Damascus Road, Baabda.

**Objectives:** Stimulate communication between the school and its graduates;  
Contribute and participate in cultural activities related to the school;  
Gather graduates and develop cooperation among them on sound and permanent basis.

**Founders:** Pauline Elias Irani, Michael Elie Mukarzel, Nidal Saad Raji,

Haddad, Melki Habib Irani.

**Official Representative:**

Ms. Pauline Elias Irani

**8. Love and Care Association Registration 110/AD on 14/6/2001**

**Location:** Sad El Bouchrieh, Next to Mar Takla Church, Al Matn

**Objectives:** Offer different social services, pre-school child care, humanitarian and philanthropic activities in general.

**Founders:** Sonia maroun Kawkabani, Rita Nasri Karam, Silvy Shafic Raji, Amal Asaad Rapahel, Leila Masoud Richa.

**Official Representative:** Amal Assad rapahel.

**9. Abdallah Saade Association Registration 111/AD on 14/6/2001**

**Location:** Amyoun, Bayad Street, Dselim Saade Building, Koura.

**Objectives:** Promote and realize the thoughts and dogma of Abdallah Saade on the social, cultural and humanitarian levels.

**Founders:** D. Leila Abdallah Saade, D. May Hanna Saade Saade, Selim Abdallah Saade, D. Mounir Habib El Khoury, D. Hana Abdallah El Khoury Saade Saade.

**Official Representative:** D. Leila Abdallah Saade.

**10. Women Cancer Protection Association Registration 112/AD on 14/6/2001**

**Location:** Zgharta, Jdeideh, Northern Lebanon.

**Objectives:** Upgrade the level of care services in the medical, psychological and rehabilitation fields in order to treat cancer in women, and assure that the treatment is sound;  
Follow-up patients correctly;

Help in raising public awareness on cancer in women, the ways to treat it and guide women towards performing periodic exams and provide means for these exams.

Organize seminars and conferences on Cancer in women, and on the improvements of medical research;

Enhance medical and academic research;

Prepare studies related to this field;  
Consolidate relationships between the Association and the universities, scientific and medical institutions in order to exchange expertise, delegate commissions, organize seminars and conferences;  
Twin the Association with similar associations abroad;  
Establish a specialized medical library and information center open to all interested;  
Work on educational and medical activities within the framework of the organization;  
Enhance the spirit of cooperation and solidarity, and upgrade the mental, scientific and cultural levels of members, with other women organizations in Lebanon in order to realize these objectives;  
Carry out all activities and programs that comply with the objectives and goal of the Association, including services, researches and different projects.  
All clauses of this document are carried on within the rules and regulations in order and upon the approval of the concerned parties.

**Founders:** D. Aisha Ibrahim Hamad Abou Askar, D. Walid Taha Mukaddam, Mariane Riyad Sarkis, Mariette Gerges Sawma, Elaine Tannous Farah, D. Ghassan Ramez El nabout, Carmella Nayef Bahouth, Leila Gerges El Shakhouna El Rehban, Mona Jamil Bou Mrad, Faki Mkhayel Khouzami.

**Official Representative:** D. Aisha Ibrahim Hamad Abou Askar

#### **11. Gathering of Makhatir of Bint Jbeil Prefecture Registration 113/AD on 20/6/2001**

**Location:** Tebnine, Bint Jbeil Prefecture, Nabattiyeh.

**Objectives:** Organize the Makhatir (prefects) of Bint Jebil;  
Set up a frame representing them and speaking in their names;  
Unify the methods of Makhatir within the structures and regulations in order;  
Enhance the educational level of Makatir with regards to their jurisdictions and the means to carry on these jurisdictions and missions.

**Founders:** Nazih Assaad Rafoul, Muhammad Ali Reed, Ali Muhammad Saleh, Hussein Hassamn Zib, Hassan Muhammad badih Farhat, Husein Ali Rmeity, Hussein El Hajj Ali Majed, Hamzah Abdel Hussein Hamzah, Ali Bid Faqih, Abdel Raouf Mahmoud Muhsen, Hassan Toufic Sabra.

**Official Representative:** Hassan Ali Rmeity

#### **12. Morouj Al Mahabba Welfare Association Registration 115/AD on 20/6/2001**

**Location:** Beirut, Ashrafieh, Karm El Zeitoun, Al Ghabi Street, Youssef Nmeir Building.

**Objectives:** Assist those in need and work on developing their capacities and improve their living conditions;  
Work on upgrading the educational and social levels of those in need, and the disabled;  
Collaborate with concerned parties on establishing educational and health institutions as well as social projects, and organize conferences and exhibitions as per

the rules and regulations in order and upon the approval of pertinent authorities.

**Founders:**

Shedid, Ghassan Moussa El Sammour Sawaya, Assad Toufic El Mosleh, Toni Mansour El Jabbour, Rasmi Nicolas El Jubran. Bassam Fayez Shalshal, Elias Boutros EL Jabbour, Elias Jado Ge

**Official Representative:**

Raasmi Nicolas El Jubran

**13. AL Irshad Association, Al Amlieh Registration 116/AD on 21/6/2001**

**Location:**

Ansariyeh, Laboubiya Street, El Hajj Hussein Abdel Karim Faqih Building, Saida.

**Objectives:**

Organize activities leading to the upgrading of the educational, social and welfare levels;  
Develop moral, educational and thought levels in the Lebanese society;  
Collaborate with concerned parties to alleviate the impact of the social crisis on the poor and the needy;  
Realize the objectives of the Association on the following levels: educational, pedagogic, development, welfare, social, health ad environmental.

**Founders:**

Abbas Ahmad Shahade, Muhammad Ahmad Shahade, Zbbas Hussein Faqih , Fadl Hussein Saad, Radwan Ibrahim Katayer, Hussein Yassin Faqih, Hani Jamil Jezziny.

**Official Representative:**

Hasssan Yassin Faqih

**14. Arab Informatics Association Registration 117/AD on 23/6/2001**

**Location:**

Beirut, Msaytbeh, Mar Elias Street, Al Kawa Building, 5<sup>h</sup> Floor.

**Objectives:**

Contribute with official, educational and local parties to accelerate the mainstreaming of Lebanon and the Arab Countries in the Informatics Stream, in order to optimize profit from its activities and results;  
Contribute, encourage and develop scientific research in the field of informatics;  
Support the informatics industry in Lebanon and the Arab Countries, and facilitate the exchange of information and expertise on the Arab informatics products;  
Facilitate scientific cooperation among researchers and academics in Lebanon and the Arab countries;  
Coordinate with similar scientific associations in the Arab world and the world;  
Organize scientific and research conferences on an international level in the field of informatics;  
Publish a specialized scientific research publication on Informatics;  
These activities are carried out according to the rules and regulations in order.

**Founders:**

D. Issam Muhammad Nour Abdel Kader, D. Wadih Najib Jreidini, D. Hassan Bahaeddine Diy Muhammad Mansour, D. Youssef Antoun Mounsef.

**Official Representative:**

**15. Bkarsouna Social Association Registration 118/AD on 25/6/2001**

**Location:**

**Objectives:**

**Founders:**

**Official Representative:**

**16. Alumni of the National Anglican High School Registration 119/AD on 25/6/2001**

**Location:**

**Objectives:** Economics and Commerce.  
Gather the graduates of the High School and secure communication among them;  
Organize non-political activities (social, educational, entertainment);  
Instate a friendly relationship between the school and the graduates.

**Founders:** Tarek Munib Bakkar, Nadine Lai Maatouk, Linda Zuhair Maktabi, Omar Afif Bou Kheir, Zeina Sami El Inan

**Official Representative:** Tarek Munib Bakkar

**17. Council of Traders and Importers of Popular Clothes Registration 120/AD on 25/6/2001**

**Location:** Beirut, Afif El Tibi Street, Al Jihad Building, Ground Floor.

**Objectives:** Develop and upgrade the level of all other projects related to the import and trading in popular clothes;  
Collaborate with concerned parties and official administrations on improving and upgrading the trading and import of popular clothes as to quality;  
Execute the commercial agreements between Lebanon and foreign countries related to the import of popular clothes;  
Consolidate the relationships and encourage cooperation among the members of the Association in order to improve the level of cooperation and upgrade that of the commerce economically, socially and in trading;  
Enhance, develop consolidate, boom up and advance this trade through activities and exhibitions.

**Founders:** Hussein Ali Mahdi, Nicolas Elia Habib, Jawad Ahmad Jaber, Youssef Abdel Amir Sab

**Official Representative:** Meslem Akil, Mustapha Ibrahim Sabbagh.

Mr. Youssef Abdel Amir Sabra,

**18. Arsoun Social Unit Association - - Registration 121/AD on 25/6/2001**

**Location:**

**Objectives:** Build, equip and manage a social unit in Arsoun and participate in organizing social event.

**Founders:** Deputy Ayman Shawkat Shukeir, Najib Anouar Shujeir, Jihad Selim Shamseddine, Nuhad Mustapha Hariz, Khaled Toufic Hariz, Issam Jamil Hariz.

**Official Representative:** Mr. Nuhad Mustapha Hariz.

**19. Lebanese Indian Council of Businesspersons Registration 122/AD on 27/6/2001**

**Location:** Beirut

**Objectives:** Develop economic relations between the two republics of India and Lebanon;  
Encourage mutual investments and exchange of expertise in these fields;

Exchange information in the fields of business, education and arts, especially through meetings, seminars and conferences;

Publicize this information on institutions and concerned businesspersons;

Organize meetings and seminars in order to realize the objectives of the Council.

The Council shall carry out, among others, the following activities:

Issue letters and newsletters in order to instate a permanent database;

Organize and encourage cultural and arts activities and exchange delegations;

Collaborate with official and private entities as well as individuals to develop an economic, financial, cultural and artistic relationship.

**Founders:**

Muhammad Hassan Ali Saleh, Ahmad Absseil Uthman El Zein, Rashid Sleiman Baydoun, Sarkis Karabat Ayanian, Roy Nicolas Badaro, Amine Fawzi Rahhal, S. Haroutine Gabriel Nicolian, Muhammad Ali Saad, Rida Dib Ghadar, Bernard Jean Fattal, Arslan Muhammad Sinno, Qassem Muhammad Adib Breish.

**Official Representative:**

Muhammad Ali Saad

**Registration 124/AD on 28/6/2001**

**Location:**

Beirut, Ashrafieh, Charles Malek Avenue, Hadifa Building.

**Objectives:**

Encourage, organize and sponsor social and cultural activities, and touches all person concerned, namely current and former employers and employees at Saradar Group (e.g. Banque Saradar s.a.l. and the other adherent companies directly or indirectly) and implement all necessary activities in this matter.

**Founders:**

Mario Joseph Saradar, Khalil Shukri El Tawil, Fadi Georges Amatouri, Joumana Raymond El hachem, Mariane Antoine Kouyoumji, Maria Joseph Saradar.

**Official Representative:**

Mario Joseph Saradar

**Attention Deficit and Hyper Activity Disorder Association Registration 126/AD on 28/6/2001**

**Location:**

Beirut, Maamari Street, Jamil Ibrahim Building, 11<sup>th</sup> floor.

**Objectives:**

Raise awareness on the Attention Deficit and Hyper Activity Disorder and define them;

Raise community awareness on the means and ways to care for, improve and develop the field of concentration of those attained with Attention Deficit and Hyper Activity Disorder;

Divide attention on all activities and other social, humanitarian, health and educational affairs, collaborate with other organizations and refer to experts in order to realize the objectives of the Association;

Assist schools and care institutions working with children attained with this type of disorder;

Provide assistance and care for those with special needs (those attained with the Attention Deficit and Hyper Activity Disorder).

**Founders:**

Dr. Gergi Breidy, Abdel Kader Muhammad El Alayli, Mona

Vladimir Yazigi, Pauline Hartion Najarian, D. Jeean Antoine Fayad, Christine Antoine Shaker, Maha Abdel Moula EL Ouweini.

**Registration 127/AD on 28/6/2001**

**Location:** Beirut, Mar Elias Street, Digi Corner,. Sammour Building, Najib El Kirki Estate, 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

**Objectives:** Raise public awareness on corruption in order to highlight its negative repercussions on the social and economic life. This is realized through publishing studies, scientific research and statistics in different ways possible. Also, organize conferences, seminars and use the media.

**Founders:** Maher Youssef Saloum, Maha Ahmad Mounir EL Hussein, Hoda Ahmad Mounir EL Hussein, Kevork Byvlos Atamiyan, Lina Mustapaha Sultani Makhzoumi,

**Official Representative:** Maher Youssef Saloum

**22. The Advanced Center for Learning Difficulties, INMAA Registration 128/Ad on 30/6/2001**

**Location:** Kabreshmoun, Ramhala Estate Area, Murhi Building, Aley.

**Objectives:** Guide and Rehabilitate children with learning difficulties and assist help them integrate normal schools and succeed in their studies;

Install a communication network between the association and the parents in order to guide them on the best ways to help their children;

Raise the awareness of the educational body, namely teachers, on the concept of learning difficulties and orient them towards the best ways to identify and assist children with difficulties within their own capacities;

Collaborate with the Ministry of National education in order to instate special classes in schools for children with learning difficulties, as is the case in developed countries because it is not fair to ignore these students or discharge them from schools.

**Founders:** Louban Kamel Ama Daqour, Hoda Ahssan Najmeddine, Christine Edouard Nassar, Aida Amine El Jawhari, Samir Anis Ammar, Leila Muhammad Nassreddine, Maroua Abdallah El Saty, Kamal Abdel Rahman Bacdashe, Rania Waguhih El Shamine, Nabil Toufic El Richani.

**Official Representative:** Leila Muhammad Nassereddine.

**23. Alumni Club of Marjeyoun National School Registration 130/ AD on 5/7/2001**

**Location:** Jdeidet Marjeyoun, Hay El Kalaa Street, Council of the Marjeyou National School building, Marjeyoun.

**Objectives:** Gather graduates and develop cultural and social relationships among them;

Consolidate links and cooperation between the graduates and the school;

Work on promoting the heritage and traditions of the school, enhance its national, educational and scientific role, and assist the school in all means possible;

Support the school morally and financially in order to upgrade its infrastructure, educational structure and provide scholarships to deserving students.

**Founders:** Nabil Adib Rahhal, Hala Hafiz bayoud, Hussein Hassan Abdallah, Yacoub Georges Naddeh, Amine Najib Sham, D. Murad Eid Jerdak, D. Leila Fares Farhood, Makram Labib Gholmieh, D. Adnan Alfred Audi, D. Mo  
**Official Representative:** Yacoub Georges Naddeh

**24. Medical Decoration for the Handicapped Registration 132/AD on 10/7/2001**

**Location:** Batroun, Main Road, Dr. Charbel Dagher Building.  
**Objectives:** Assist the physically and mentally handicapped persons, with no discrimination on the basis of race or confession, and treat them in the clinics of member doctors;  
Cooperate with other humanitarian and similar organizations in order to promote medical services and other basic services for the handicapped;  
Work in silence and away from all forms of promotion and media and decoration, avoid the plastering of pictures of its presidents of members in the centers, except the picture of

**Founders:** D. Georges Nicolas Dagher, Jean Fawzi Matar, D. Hikmat Nicolas Dagher, Claude Youssef EL Derzi, D. Youssef Nicolas Dagher, D. Charbel Nicolas Dagher, Katia Fawzi Matar.  
**Official Representative:** D. Georges Nicolas Dagher

**25. Association 133/Ad on 10/7/2001** **Registration**

**Location:** Nabatieh.  
**Objectives:** Assist the poor and the needy in the district;  
Instill the spirit of cooperation and familiarity among the residents of the area;  
Assist the residents in the educational, cultural and social areas.

**Founders:** Ali Waajih Farid Muhammad Ali Khalil Farhat, Fadi Muhammad Nehme, Muhammad Shehaded Ibrahim Khodr, Hussein Ahmad Zein, Ibrahim Abdel Halim Hamoud, Muhammad Hassan Nassereddine.  
**Official Representative:** Mr. Fadi Muhammad Nehme

**26. Friends of Victor Lahoud Association Registration 134/AD on 11/7/2001**

**Location:** Al-Fanar-main road-near the University of Arts-Leila Lahoud  
Bldg.-Metn Caza

**Aims:** To follow the principles set by Victor Lahoud in the educational arena, and to provide academic support to schools and instructors.

**Founders:** Nadim Elias Mouawwad, Michel Youssef Asekhen, Henry Charles Bakhos, Gabriel Emile Debbas, Salma Mirna Fayyad, Naja Tnyos Yazbek, Julia Girges Lahoud.

**Official Representative:** Henry Charles Bakhos

**27. The Lebanese-German Business Association Registration 135/AD on 11/7/2001**

**Location:** Beirut-Finus Street-Hatoum Bldg.-1<sup>st</sup> Fl.  
**Objectives:** Develop relations between Lebanese and German businessmen, in general terms, in all economic, commercial, financial, industrial, touristic, service as well as investment sectors.  
**Founders:** Raif Abdel-Philippe Asoud, Toufic Nkoula Gharghar, Hans George Burner, George Youssef Assaf.  
**Official Representative:** George Youssef Assaf

**28. League of Alumnae of Mar Youssef Vocational Institution Registration 136/AD on 11/7/2001**

**Location:** Dahr Assowan- Azariyyeh Priesthood- Mar Youssef Vocational Institution- Metn Caza  
**Objectives:** To develop and strengthen relationships between all graduates of the institution.  
**Founders:** Michel Antoine El-Husseini, Joseph Sa Fayyad Awad, Nimr Salim Yihya, George Habib Copti, Joseph Sami Shalhoub, Michel Fayez Touma, Antoine Raymond Zahlawani  
**Official Representative:** Michel Antoine El-Husseini

**29. The Lebanese Handicraft Reunion Registration 138/AD on 11/7/2001**

**Location:** Sin El-Fil- Al-Mountazah Str.- Tohmazian Center- Ibrahim Moukarzel Office- Metn Caza  
**Objectives:** To protect the Lebanese culture and to render it known to people around the world, to develop all types of Lebanese handicrafts, to organize training workshops for those who are interested in old and new handiwork, to seek with the concerned parties to reward the creative artisans and to improve their labor and health conditions, to organize exhibitions and cultural festivals in Lebanon and abroad, to coordinate with different associations and institutions that share common goals and objectives in order to improve the crafts sector.  
**Founders:** Madeline Lteif Maalouf, Amal Michel Ghosn, Karine Gerges Arbeed, Amira Khalil Al-Jamal, Janette Victor Rizk, Bernadette Karim Karim, Mary Mikhael Maalouf, Lara Elias Rameh Abi-Nahed Ashartouni, Mirsal Suheil Tannous Khalil, Christian Wajeeh Korbani.  
**Official Representative:** Madeline Lteif Maalouf

**30. Al-Khatib Kinship Association Registration 139/AD on 11/7/2001**

**Location:** Barja- Al-Bayader Str.- Younes Al-Khatib Bldg.- Shouf Caza  
**Objectives:** To improve cultural and social levels among members of the family and to employ their skills in the public service sector, consolidate relations between members of Al-Kahtib family regardless of their religious affiliation, to aid sick and needy members of the family and to provide support to the intellectually distinguished to continue their studies, to work for the benefit of the country and the kinship and to develop humane relations between all Lebanese families.  
**Founders:** Adnan Mohammed Rashid Al-Khatib, Younes Ali Al-Khatib,

Rustom Atfat Al-Khatib, Sheikh Omar Sheikh Hosni Al-Khatib, Dr. Issam Farouk Al-Khatib, Dr. Hassan Sheikh Ibrahim Al-Khatib, Ali Mohammad Al-Khatib. -

**Official Representative:** Younes Mohammad Al-Khatib

**31. Kaddoura Kinship Association Registration 141/AD on 12/7/2001**

**Location:** Jib Jennine- Nazir Toufic Kaddoura- West Bekaa

**Objectives:** To develop efficient cooperation between all family members, to promote their moral, financial, social, and cultural conditions to the highest extent.

**Founders:** Nazir Toufic Kaddoura, Majed Hassan Jad Al-Aoun, Samira Mohammad Kaddoura, Hassan Hussein Kaddoura, Ali Mohammad Ali Kkaddoura, Fida Ahmad Kaddoura.

**Official Representative:** Nazir Toufic Kaddoura

**32. The Lebanese Cultural Gathering Registration 142/AD on 12/7/2001**

**Location:** Beirut- Achrafieh- Tabariz- Saifi Str.- SNA Bldg.

**Objectives:** To work on converging the various existing cultural trends in Lebanon, to consolidate and publicize common elements between the various trends, to encourage cultural developments, and to execute the established aims and goals in compliance with set rules and regulations.

**Founders:** Antoine Pierre Kouniski, Dr. Fadi Joseph Moughaizel, Bassam Alli Tarbah, May Karam Abdel-Sater, Iskandar Roger Najjar

**Official Representative:** Dr. Fadi Joseph Moughaizel

**33. The Lebanese Association for the Maritime and Wildlife Museum Registration 143/AD on 13/7/2001**

**Location:** Tyre- Hay Al-Ramel, Younes Bldg.- 4<sup>th</sup> Fl.

**Objectives:** To seek the establishment of a Maritime and Wildlife museum and to raise awareness on the matter among students and citizens at all levels, with the collaboration of the concerned parties, in order to protect maritime and wildlife in Lebanon where animals of all kinds can survive

workshops, symposiums and lectures for awareness-raising, to issue a bulletin, to train environmental activists in order to establish a database on resources for the preservation of the environment in all aspects for the sake of the environment and of the nation as a whole, and to establish a network of contacts with official representatives, NGOs and other international institutions concerned with cultural, scientific and environmental issues.

**Founders:** Jamal Ahmad Younes, Dany Antoine Khayyat, Daoud Ahmad Al-Hajj, Daoud Younes, Ahmad Mustafa Istanbouli, Youssef Ahmad Khraizat.

**Official Representative:** Jamal Ahmad Younes

**34. Friends of Byblos Association Registration 144/AD on 13/7/2001**

**Location:** Byblos- 13<sup>th</sup> Str.- Kordahi Bldg.

**Objectives:** Establish and manage a web site containing informative data about Byblos, its cultural history and its activities; To organize exhibitions and lectures to realize the associations objectives and goals;

To protect natural sites and old edifices within the city of Byblos;  
 To monitor construction processes and to protect literary writings, sculpting and photographing on edifices and cultural elements;  
 Seek to own and rehabilitate cultural structures to preserve historical contexts for the benefit of the public in general terms;  
 To organize fundraising activities and to gather financial donations in order for the associations to realize its set goals;  
 To seek the official recognition of the association as a public utility institution  
 To establish a center for technical occupations and crafts work;  
 To support all social, academic, and touristic activities in Byblos.

**Founders:**

H.E. Minister Jean-Louis Kordahi, Raphael Joseph Sfeir, Dr. Hagob Karabetian, Wadih Elias Ghantous Saliba, Emile Botros Al-Kuwaik, Elie Zakhya Malhama, Ayyoub Aziz Baraq, Oscar Tanios Al-Hajj, Gergy Elias Al-Khoury, Maroun Nakhleh Al-Moujabber, Fady Hassan Haidar.

**Official Representative:**

H.E. Minister Jean-Louis Kordahi

**35. National Orthodox School Alumni Club Registration 145/AD on 13/7/2001**

**Location** Sheikh Taba, National Orthodox School, Akkar Directorate.  
**Objectives** Create cultural and social links that would maintain communication among graduates and with their school. This is realized:  
 Develop cooperation among them;  
 Promote Solidarity among members of the alumni;  
 Service the schools and contribute in realizing the aims set for the school;  
 Preserve its educational level with different means, in coordination with the school administration;  
 Consolidate the different intellectual, cultural and social activities in order to realize the goals of the school;  
 Promote education in society.  
**Founders** Clara Elias El Derbaly, Anis Imad Aboud, Rabih Ibrahim El Hallak, Liliane Michael Tannous, Georges Fouad Hanna, Randa Faraj  
**Official Representative** Mr. Milad Nicolas El Khoury

**36. Gathering of Industrialists of Al Minyeh Registration 146/AD on 16/7/2001**

**Location** Al Minyeh, Old Main Road, Samir Alameddine Building, Minyeh Dannieh Directorate.  
**Objectives** Gather industrialists in the area of Al Minyeh;  
 Upgrade the social and cultural levels in order to improve industries in the area, in collaboration with pertinent parties;  
 Provide all types of services possible for member industrialists, in collaboration with pertinent parties;  
 Upgrade industries in Al Minyeh Area.  
**Founders** Rabah Rashif Malas, Abdel Aziz Moustapha El Dehaby, Amer Muhammad Dib El Halabi, Samir Ali Hamadeh Alameddine Alameddine, Moustapha Ali Killal, Abdel Kader Dib, Khaled ha El

Official Representative Arja.  
Mr. Samir Ali Hamadeh Alameddine Alameddine

### **37. Al Ashkar Kinship League Registration 147/AD on 16/7/2001**

Location

Objectives Gather the family in Lebanon and abroad and consolidate the spirit of love among its members;  
Cooperation and solidarity, assistance to the needy sick, old, orphans and parents of the deceased;  
Organize different social and cultural activities in order to improve the

Founders

ashkar, Adonis Elias Al Ashkar, Jean Aziz Al Ashkar, Antoine Nassib Al Ashkar, Sharbel Youssef Al Ashkar, Samer Abdo AL Ashkar.

Official Representative Mr. Samer Abdo Al Ashkar

### **Registration 148/AD on 16/7/2001**

Location Kfifane Batroun Directorate

Objectives Welfare, social, health and humanitarian services, within the area of Batroun.

Founders

Official Representative

### **b Registration 149/AD on 16/7/2001**

Location

Objectives Instate and encourage friendships and cooperation on different levels among the graduates, the former students of the Institute and the administration, the former students of the Institute and the current students;  
Encourage all activities and scientific, cultural, social and artistic gatherings joining graduates;  
Upgrade and promote the name and values of the Institute and participate in realizing its goals;  
Create a solid relationship of cooperation and exchange of expertise between the Institute and the graduates;  
Assist in the integration of fresh graduates in the professional life;  
Ensure grants and assistance to the Institute and the students through the Administration;  
Promote the French-speaking culture;  
Consolidate cultural and economic relationships between Lebanon and France and the other French-speaking countries;  
The aforementioned clauses are applied in accordance with the laws and regulations in order.

Founders

Lina Muhammad Ali Hamdan, Ramy Farouq Majzoub, Lucien Lucien Joseph Latif, Joumana Abdel Latif Nasr, Selim Samir Shebli, Shady Asaad Salameh, Walid Muhyiddine Kebbi, Omar Abdel Razzak Mumtaz, Marlene Joseph El Jerr, Jamil Muhammad Jamil Fakhry, Paul Mansour, D. Joseph Koteit, Carl Farid Bou Melhem.

Official Representative Ms. Marlene Joseph El Jerr.

**40. Welfare Association for High School Education of Orphans Registration 150/AD on 17/7/2001**

Location Beirut, Wata El Msaytbeh, Jabal Arab, Hamoud Building, Ground Floor.

Objectives The Association cares for the orphans, the House of Orphans in Abeih It works to upgrade its material and scientific levels, and assists the orphan in pursuing his/her high school studies, allowing him/her to consider a university degree.  
Organize different welfare activities.

Founders

Haybat Najib Salha.

Official Representative

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**41. El Shouf National College Alumni Registration 151/AD on 17/7/2001**

Location Baakline, Shouf National College, Shouf Directorate.

Objectives Gather all Shouf National College graduates and consolidate familiarity and cooperation among them;  
Provide privileges for the graduates in collaboration with the school;  
Assist those in need as well as gratify exceptional students;  
Provide financial support to the school, and participate in all profitable activities for the school;  
Organize different cultural activities such as seminars, scientific conferences, parties, arts exhibitions, etc.

All activities are carried out with respect to the rules and regulations in order, and upon the approval of the pertinent authorities.

Founders Aida Khalil Ibrahim, Hafez Sleiman Berjas, Samir Sami Rajeh, Selim Malek Takieddine, Haytham Riyad Khodr, Daniel Suhail Bou Hatoum, Niyafet Kamel Takieddine, Tarek Khalil Abdel Baki, Siham Asaad Said El Zoghbi, Samar Suhail Bou Hatoum Hamadeh, Joumana Ali Hamadeh.

Official Representative Selim Malek Tekieddine

**42. The Association for Social Support and Cultural Activities Registration 152/AD on 17/7/2001.**

Location Beirut, El Mazraa, Nouery, Ouzai Street, Shaar Building.

Objectives Participate in the development of the Lebanese culture and art;  
Exchange and develop cultural, artistic, human and social relationships with the associations and organizations sharing the same objectives.

Founders Jihad Selim EL Shaar, Walid Ahmad El Bidaoui, Raja Muhammad El Taki, Rabih Hussein El Darwish, Dima Ahmad Mukhtar Hamandi.

Official Representative Mr. Jihad Selim El Shaar

**43. Abdallah Ghanem Association Registration 153/AD on 17/7/2001**

Location Baskinta, Yamama Abdallah Ghanem Building, El Matn Directorate.

Objectives Maintain and protect the poetic, literary, dogmatic, linguistic and cultural heritage of Abdallah Ghanem;  
Permanently promote this heritage using different means;  
Establish a museum for the poet as well as a cultural center joining all

his scripts, works and writings which show his personality and literary production, as well as all critiques written about him and researches on his production;

Build a memorial in his honor;

Instate literary prizes in his name;

Organize different cultural activities within and outside the Center of the Association;

Founders	ivities to commemorate the literary, artistic, dogmatic, and cultural heritage of the exclusive successors of Abdallah Ghanem and their descendants, no matter how far reached they might be on the vertical line. Ghaleb Abdallah Ghanem, Jean Daoud, Robert Abdallah Ghanem, Iskandar Rouhi Najjar, Pierre Youssef Bou Khater, Joseph Adib Sader, Rafiq Abdallah Ghanem.
Official Representative	Mr. Rafic Abdallah Ghanem.

#### **44. Friends of the Institute of Saint Antoine Registration 145/AD on 17/7/2001**

Location	Baabda, Monastery of Saint Antoine, Mount Lebanon.
Objectives	Development, social, cultural: Cooperation among its members in order to assist and encourage the residents of Baabda and Alley to remain on their lands through the invitation to participate in development and construction projects, and create job opportunities for them. Cooperate with concerned parties, official, semi official, local and public, as well as coordinate with the different associations, universities, institutions, organizations, consultants, and research parties active in the field of development, in order to develop the areas of Baabda and Alley; Collaborate with concerned parties to prepare law proposals in the different fields of development and construction; Organize conferences, seminars and meetings in the different development, social and cultural fields, namely raising youth awareness, and activate their role in their own communities, and spread the spirit of cooperation and solidarity among them.
Founders	Father Hanna Daher Hanna Selim, father Raymond Hashem Hashem, Antoine Waguih El Khoury El Helou, Sami Anis Madi, Antoine Rafic El Shartouni, Maroun Kamil Bou Raphael EL Hwayek, Father Rizk Michel El Rahban, Father Fadi Tanios tAwk, D. Tanios Iskandar Karam, D. Georges Melhem Salem, Nasri Youssef Nasrallah.
Official Representative	Fatehr Hanna Daher Hanna Selim.

#### **45. Sheikh Mustapha Yahfoufi Welfare Association Registration 155/AD on 17/7/2001**

Location	Baalbek, El Shmei Street, Muhammad Mustapha El Yahfoufi building, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor.
Objectives	Work with pertinent parties in order to build a center for the activities of the Association; Realize care and humanitarian activities; Organize educational and social activities; Work with pertinent authorities in order to instate health and educational institutions; Spread the spirit of love and brotherhood, create appropriate atmospheres for sound relationships among the residents of the town, as per the rules and regulations in order and upon the approval of the

	pertinent authorities.
Founders	Hassan Muhammad El Yahfoufi, Moussa EL Kazzem Abdallah Yahfoufi.
Official Representative	

**B AMENDMENTS**

**1. Amendm  
Child)**

Location	Sin El Fil, Youssef Karam Street, Al Matn Directorate.
Objectives	Care for children and orphans and special social cases regardless of their religious affiliations; Assist in supporting the child deprived morally and physically from their family atmosphere; Serve children and disabled (mentally or physically) who do not require a specialized institution; Participate in the upbringing of children sponsored by the Association, instate a spirit of solidarity among them as well as enhance their self-dependence; Participate in the rehabilitation of some families whose children are sponsored by the Association, and attempt to help them reach self sufficiency; Provide educational support and help in the reintegration in the official curriculum of students having trouble following up their studies; Receive young children in pre-school ages and place them in nurseries and supervise them; Open kindergartens for children and schools for special non vocational and non technical training (primary, complementary and high schools), as well as vocational and technical training schools. Acquire the appropriate permits in this matters as per the rules and regulations in order; Allow people with limited revenues to purchase homes through middle to long-term credit facilities.

<i>Instead of</i>	<i>Sponsor war orphans in particular, and orphans in general regardless of their religious affiliation; Assist children who were morally and physically deprived of their family atmosphere; Serve some physically disabled children who do not require specialized institutions to guard them.</i>
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**2. Clothing Welfare Association Registration 140**

<b>Objectives</b>	Fight the trilogy of poverty, ignorance and disease; Establish schools and welfare dispensaries; Build mosques; Provide social assistance
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<i>Instead of</i>	<i>Fight the trilogy of poverty, ignorance and disease through the establishment of non-gratis schools and welfare dispensaries, as well as provide social assistance and build mosques.</i>
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## C RECLAMATION OF REGISTRATION NUMBERS FROM CERTAIN ASSOCIATIONS

### 1. RECLAMATION OF THE REGISTRATION NUMBER GIVEN TO INSTITUTE THE OUSTAPHA FAMILY WELFARE ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION No. 131/AD ON 5/7/2001

The Minister of Internal Affairs and Municipalities, with reference to the Decree 4336 on 26/10/2000;  
Association Law issued on 3 /8/ 1909;  
Law proposal under execution by the decree no. 10830 issued on 9/10/1962;  
Registration no. 53/AD on 24/2/1993 stipulating the institution of the organizations known as

Summon presented by the members of the said organization and registered on 17/11/2001 whereby they are requesting the approval to dissolve the said organization because the members are unable to abide by the two internal and basic regulations of the Association, approved ----- in its letter no. 2326/1 ----- on 12/5/2001;  
Reading of the Commission of Regulation ad Consultancy no. 283 on 22/7/1999;  
Proposition of the Minister of Internal Affairs;

Decides to:

**Article 1:** Reclaim the registration No. 53/AD issued on 24/2/1993 for the benefit of

**Article 2:** This decision is published and notified when necessary.

### 2. RECLAMATION OF THE REGISTRATION NUMBER GIVEN TO INSTITUTE THE EBANESE WELFARE ASSOCIATION BY DECREE No. 5848 ON 10/7/2001

The President of the Republic, with reference to:  
The Constitution;  
Association Law issued on 3 /8/ 1909;  
Law proposal under execution by the decree no. 10830 issued on 9/10/1962;

The complaint presented by the Secretary and registered under the Number 3319/2 on 15/4/2000;  
The investigation of the General Directorate of national Security stipulating the dissolving of the said organization because it did not carry out any welfare activity of programs;  
Proposition of the Minister of Internal Affairs and Municipalities, and after the approval of the Cabinet on 14/6/2001;

Concludes the following:

**Article 1:**

ated in Tripoli. The said organization is now dissolved for the shown reasons.

**Article 2:** This decision is published and notified when necessary.

## **D OTHER DECREES**

### **Expand the period given to youth and scouts associations to arrange their situations Decree No. 57/Sh R on 4/7/2001**

The Minister of Youth and Sports, with reference to:

Decree Law 4336 on 26/10/2000;

Law 247 on 7/8/2000 (amalgamation, dissolving and institution of ministries and councils);  
Decision No. 16/72 on 15/12/1972 and its amendments (youth and sports associations are subject to the monitoring of the Ministry of Youth and Sports)

Decree 9104 on 11/9/1996 and its amendments (determine the conditions to which all youth, sports and scouting organizations are subjected in their institution, dissolving and organizing their activities);

Decree No. 9083 on 11/9/1996 (organize the hosting and nomination of sports and youth delegations);

Decision No. 66/M/98 on 2/2/1998 (determine the technical and special conditions for the youth associations, as well as unions for scouts and guides);

Decision No. 981/M/98 on 18/8/1998 (design basic and internal structures for youth, sports and scouts associations and unions);

Decision No. 27/ShR on 19/3/2001;

Taking into consideration the proposition of the General Manager of Youth and Sports, it was decided that:

**Article 1:** The period given to the youth and scouts organizations to arrange their legal positions as determined in the article 1 of the decision No. 26/ShR on 19/3/2001 is expanded for additional 3 months, counting from the end of the current period.

**Article 2:** All other decisions that contradict this decision or disagree with its clauses are considered null;

**Article 3:** This decision is published and notified when necessary.

**BOOKS AND RESOURCES**

The CRTD resource library has received the following new books and resources:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author / Editor</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year of Publication</b>	<b>Number of Pages</b>
Principles in Practice	P. Hardi & T. zdan	International Institute for Sustainable Development	1997	160
Perverse Subsidies	Norman Myers & Jennifer Kent	International Institute for Sustainable Development	1998	230
In the Company of Partners	David F. Murphy & Jem Bendell	The Policy Press	1997	254
Terms for Endearment	Jem Bendell	Greenleaf Publishing Limited	2000	280
Sustainable Measures	Martin Bennett & Peter James	Greenleaf Publishing Limited	1999	586
The World Trade Organization & Sustainable Development: An Independent Assessment	International Institute for Sustainable Development	International Institute for Sustainable Development	1996	65
The Journal of Corporate Citizenship (issue 1)	Dr. Micolm McIntosh	Greenleaf Publishing Limited	2001	136
The Journal of Corporate Citizenship (issue 2)	Dr. Micolm McIntosh	Greenleaf Publishing Limited	2001	120
Mainstreaming Gender in World Bank Lending	Josette Murphy	The International Bank for Reconstruction & Development / The World Bank	1997	64
The Earthscan Reader in Sustainable Development	J. Kirkby, P. Timberlake	Earthscan Publications Ltd.	1995	371
Sustainable Development: An Introductory Guide	David Reid	Earthscan Publications Ltd.	1995	261

Title	Author / Editor	Publisher	Year of Publication	Number of Pages

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Maghreb Gender Linking and Information Project (MACMAG GLIP), please consult the MACMAG GLIP website at the following URL address: [http://: www.macmag-glip.org](http://www.macmag-glip.org)

For any query, comment, feedback or contributions please write to [info@crted.org](mailto:info@crted.org)

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