

I EDITORIAL

The Aftermath of September 11th and its humanitarian, civil and social implication

The tragic and unfolding events since September 11th have been, according to many analysts, a major landmark in contemporary history whilst other see them as yet another link in the overall process of globalisation led by the world superpower and its allies. The and the campaign against Afghanistan are seen by many as part of the overall globalisation process. Notwithstanding the discourse around the end of history or the beginning of a new era and the needed and necessary solutions, it is important to shed some light on the economic, social and humanitarian implications of the latest event. In doing so, we will attempt when possible to establish linkages with the work of development and human rights organisations. Amongst the implications, we note the following:

- The global economy has embarked on a period of stagnation, which is expected to be protracted, and is likely to impact poor communities extensively particularly in the South.
- Worrying indications of a widening cultural gap and polarisation between the rich and the poor.
- Growing intolerance vis--vis populations of third world countries, particularly vis--vis Moslem communities. Since the events of September 11th, numerous aggressions were recorded against individual Moslems living in the North, some leading to fatal casualties. Arbitrary arrests of suspected terrorists in rich countries have been widespread. These practices may well signal an increase in restrictions on residents as well as against potentially incoming foreigners to these countries. This is coupled by a steady decrease of tourism from the North to Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.
- The degradation of the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan where international relief organisations are warning of a potential disaster should the situation prevail by the forthcoming winter season. It is to be noted that relief assistance efforts are further jeopardised by the fact that neighbouring countries have closed their borders to Afghan refugees.
- US pressures have overcome all other efforts to postpone, relocate or cancel the holding of the WTO meeting in Doha. To be noted that other meetings, such as the Commonwealth or the Francophonie summit, have been either cancelled or postponed. Furthermore, observers and analysts have indicated that the recommendations, which will be presented, to the meeting in Doha still reflect clear divergences of views and positions between members of the organisation regarding its future directions. Many are expecting the USA to exert pressures during the meeting to extract further concessions from developing countries which remain reluctant vis--vis further liberating trade and services. According to the same observers, the US hopes that these concessions will help reinvigorate the American economy as well as that of the rest of the industrialised countries.

- may result in further obstacles on their work and on civil, humanitarian and human resources. Some indicators which reinforce this fear include the following:
 - The US black list of terrorist organisations includes a number of Islamic NGOs;
 - Coordinated international efforts aiming at investigating organisations accused of supporting terrorism have already started. For instance, Kuwait, Malaysia, Kenya and other countries have gone as far as reviewing the situation of their Islamic and charitable NGOs.
 - A number of countries have also introduced restrictions on civil rights and civil liberties such as the right to demonstrate and the right to

against the US war. We point out for instance to restrictions on demonstrations in Morocco and Jordan and the legal amendments, which have been introduced in the US and which place restrictions on civil liberties. All this comes at a time when protest in the West against the war on Afghanistan is increasing.
- Finally, some analysts have predicted that the US declaration of war on terrorism will result in the weakening of the international anti-globalisation coalition within the industrial countries with the possibility of its labour components shifting its support to the war effort.

II MONITORING OF CIVIL RIGHTS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

≡ **Globalization and Arabization**

◀ **Parallel preparations for the holding of the first Arab anti-globalisation meeting and an international conference on the WTO**

As expected, the period under review witnessed the announcement of the NGO Anti-Globalisation Gathering in Lebanon. The Gathering groups around 40 groups and NGOs active in various sectors such as human rights, development, advocacy, environment, women, youth, and culture. In addition, and during the same period, a preliminary declaration was issued calling for the setting up of a Pan-Arab Anti-Globalisation Gathering. The preliminary declaration was endorsed and signed by tens of development and political activists as well as intellectuals and artists from Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan and Palestine. The declaration calls for the creation of a Pan-Arab anti-globalization movement and warns of the risks and implications of globalisation at the various social levels. The core founding group also decided to hold the first Pan-Arab meeting in Beirut on the 3^d and 4th of November to discuss the process and implications of globalisation in the aftermath of September 11th. The Gathering w

implications at the political, economic, social and cultural levels. The NGO Anti-Globalisation Gathering in Lebanon and the Pan-Arab Anti-Globalisation Gathering will both collaborate in preparing and organising this event. The NGO Gathering will for its part play an active role in organising and facilitating a number of workshops which will look at issues related to women, environment, socially excluded groups, social services,

labour, agricultural development, the youth and the ways in which these are affected by the globalisation process. In addition to a substantial participation from Lebanon, the meeting is expected to be attended by activists and experts from Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Tunisia and Algeria. Anti-globalisation activists from Europe are also expected notably

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Parallel to that, preparations continued for the holding of the world forum on the WTO, which is organised by the Lebanese encounter on the WTO from 5 to 8 November in Beirut. The meeting will discuss issues related to trade liberalisation and the WTO. It will group Lebanese, Arab and international intellectuals, environmental activists, and NGO representatives. Some participants include former Algerian president Ahmed Ben Bella,

Martin Ore, Vandana Shiva, Samir Amin, George Corm, Atef Koborsi, Mahdi al Hafez, Elie Yachouhi, Kamal Hamdan, and Dr. Moustapha Barghouti. The meeting will include lectures on globalisation and the WTO as well as its impact on various population of the world. In preparation for that meeting, the Lebanese encounter on the WTO as well as the Arab NGOs Network for Development organised in collaboration with the UNDP, a capacity building workshop on globalisation and trade which was attended by 60 participants and experts including the Social Monitor and the Third World Network. The objective of this workshop was to raise the awareness of decision-makers on globalisation, international trade and investment, particularly the general agreement on services, labour, investment and agriculture. It also aimed at raising awareness on the agenda of the forthcoming 4th Ministerial WTO meeting in Doha. To be reminded that the Lebanese encounter on the WTO includes the Arab NGOs Network for Development and several trade unions and NGOs and networks working in Lebanon (c.f. Majal issues number 2 and 3).

⚡ ***Fundamental Human Rights***

◀ **Lebanon: Widespread solidarity with the Palestinian Intifada and a degradation of living conditions in the Palestinian refugee camps**

The current Palestinian Intifada has been met since its start up a year ago with support and solidarity at both the public and official levels. Support was expressed in various different ways namely through the holding of national and regional conferences, seminars, demonstrations, sit ins and fundraising campaigns the most important of which being the

Fatwa in Beirut. The president of the Pan-Arab Forum, Mr. Maan Bashour, indicated that more than 350 popular solidarity events have been organized during the past year in Lebanon in support of the Intifada. Nevertheless, other sources have indicated that outcome of fundraising for the Intifada in Lebanon has fell behind that of most other Arab countries (Al Moustakbal, 30/9/2001).

It is to be noted however, that at the time when the Palestinian Intifada is gaining so much support and solidarity in Lebanon, Palestinian refugees in the camps in Lebanon are suffering from neglect as reflected in the degradation at the level of basic services, civil rights and employment opportunities. Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are denied basic civil rights such as the right to organize into unions, clubs and NGOs, the right to property, the right to basic health and education and the right to expand their living quarters either

human rights activist Naji Safa, these rights are endorsed by international conventions and should be applicable to long-term refugees in any country without impinging on the

The United Nations Refugees and Works Agency (UNRWA) was partially compensating for the neglect and discrimination against Palestinian refugees in Lebanon through its assistance and service programme. However, UNRWA is now facing budget cuts, which have led to a substantial shrinking in its assistance and services. In the health sector for instance, coverage for cancer, thalassemia, heart and lung diseases has decreased to less than 40% of the cost of medicines whereas this coverage decreases to 10% for radiology and hospitalisation (Al Safir, 10/10/2001).

The report of the UNRWA director for the year 1999/2000 indicates that the situation of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon is worse off than in any other Arab country in view of their dire welfare and living conditions. According to the same sources, Palestinian refugees suffer restrictions on mobility and high unemployment rates which are clearly

The services of UNRWA may witness a further setback as indicated by its general commissioner, Mr. Peter Hansen, who pointed out during an informal meeting for donor

million US dollars. He indicated that a EU donation of 20 million US dollars has allowed the agency to pay off its staff salaries for the month of October 2001. (Al Safir, 25/9/2001).

There is indeed a great discrepancy between on the one hand the popular as well as official show of support and solidarity with the Intifada and on the other hand the increasing humanitarian plight of the Palestinian refugee population in Lebanon and the erosion of their basic and civil rights. This situation should prompt a reflection over the role of human rights groups and their involvement in alleviating the plight of the Palestinian refugees of Lebanon.



◀ **The first conference on disability, rehabilitation, and integration organised by NDRC and RI**

The first conference on disability, rehabilitation and integration was held at the Unesco Conference Hall by the National Development and Rehabilitation Centre and in collaboration with the Arab chapter of Rehabilitation International and the Arab Organization of the Disabled. The Conference was under the patronage of the President of the Republic who was represented by the Minister of Social Affairs. It grouped a high number of experts and NGO representatives in addition to delegations from a number of Arab countries. Though the number of participants reached 400 to 500 persons, however, the events of 11 September affected the level of participation from the US and other Western countries which was expected to reach 200 but had to be limited to a representation from Rehabilitation International. The recommendations of the conference stressed the need to develop legislations and enforcement mechanisms which ensure that the special needs of disabled persons given an agreed timeframe. The recommendations also emphasized the importance of the full participation of persons with disabilities in planning and implementation of services and programmes for various types of disabilities. Coordination between the government and the NGOs sector was stressed as well as the need to develop a database and an information network linking all stakeholders and allowing them to benefit from information technology. The conference stressed the

important role of the media as an effective partner in awareness raising on disability and a supporter of associations and institutions. Finally, the conference declared its support for an Arab decade for the disabled, for supporting the needs of disabled women and for paying special attention to the problem of landmines and providing support to affected countries.

The delegation of Rehabilitation International met with the Speaker of the House, Mr. Nabih Berri, who pledged support to the implementation and enforcement of the disability bill. The speaker of the house acknowledged the gap between policy formulation and implementation. He also commented on the negative perception of the disabled in Arab countries as that of dependent individuals. This, he emphasised, is wrong and needs to change though he distinguished between physical and mental disabilities. The Speaker of the House indicated that people with physical disabilities could work and excel in sports, arts, literature, philosophy and any other field.



The executive committee of the Arab Organisation of Disabled Persons issued a

- Calling on all associations of disabled persons in the world to condemn all forms of violence starting with the attack on the United States and including Palestine, marginalized and oppressed groups to adopt the human rights declaration and non-violence for claiming rights.
- In view of the increasing number of Arab disabled, the organization calls for speeding up the convening of the meeting of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs in order to transform disabled persons into productive potentials
- The organization reserves its right to sue the Israeli government for its violation of human rights and for causing an increase in the number of disabled persons in Palestine and other Arab countries. The organization reiterates its call for support to the Palestinian disabled.
- The organization emphasized that no discussion or decision related to the disabled should take place without the participation of disabled persons themselves.

◀ **The Ministry of Social Affairs objects to th
Physically Handicapped Union and the Union of Associations of Blind Persons
in Lebanon in relation to nomenclature and right to represent**

The press conference organized jointly by the Lebanese Physically Handicapped Union and the Union of Associations of Disabled Persons in Lebanon (c.f. Majal, issue number 3) has prompted the Ministry of Social Affairs to issue a clarification statement. The statement objects to the right of the Lebanese Physically Handicapped Union to represent the

within the National Council for Disability Affairs as it claims that implementation is carried out according to the text of the law.

Both associations retorted in turn by questioning the motivations of the Ministry and reaffirming the right of the LPHU to use its name as indicated in its official registration of 1981. Both organizations stressed their demand for a full implementation of the disability

bill and contested the implementation of two clauses out of a total of 101 because of the prejudice these carry vis--vis the disabled and their organizations.

🌀 **Environment and Development**

◀ **Launch of the Social Monitor and various preparatory meetings for Rio + 10**

The Arab NGO Network for Development has launched the fifth annual report of its social monitor on 12 September at the Commodore Hotel under the patronage of the Minister of Social Affairs, Dr. Assad Diab represented by the head of the directorate for Family Affairs Mr. Hussein Majed. The launch included keynote addresses by Mr. Amin Farchoukh of ANND, Mr. Hussein Majed of MOSA, Mr. Yves De San, the United Nations Resident Representative in Lebanon, Mr. Hamid el Kam of Espace Associatif and Mr. Roberto Bisso of the Third World Institute. Mr. Adib Nehme presented the report which he helped preparing and which covers 47 countries including 6 Arab countries. ANND then organized under the auspices of Minister Michel Mussa a preparatory meeting for Rio + 10 which will be held in Johannesburg in the fall of 2002. The workshop was attended by organizations from Palestine, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, and Lebanon and included presentations and discussions of reports undertaken by NGOs from the participating countries with the aim of reaching common recommendations for the Johannesburg conference.

Similarly, another event was held in early September with the participation of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Lebanese Environmental Council, the Arab Network for Environment and Development and the Earth Council to discuss the Lebanon report which will be submitted to the Johannesburg conference. The report outlines progress since the first Rio conference in 1992 and the challenges facing sustainable development at the level of government policies and NGOs. It indicates that Lebanon remains below the international standards in relation to potable water, mineral water, domestic water, road networks, environment, and solid waste management. The report indicates that the environmental situation in Lebanon is deteriorating in view of the absence of governmental policies and the poor coordination between the various public instances concerned with environmental issues. The report also identified obstacles to sustainable development as being conflict of interests in the public sector, poor structures and infrastructures of municipalities and their limited financial resources, the absence of development and environmental policies, the outdated nature of existing laws and regulations and the poor law enforcement mechanisms as well as the fact that new laws which would have otherwise addressed environmental degradation are not being endorsed.

During this meeting, Ms. Nada al Nashef, the Deputy UN Resident Representative in Lebanon, presented the vision of the UNDP Programme in Lebanon from 1992. She
-relation between

that the aim of the UNDP programme is to assist countries in integrating environmental
rts in
its plan for 2002-2007 to focus further on environmental issues and support the formulation and implementation of environmental policies and legislations. Nashef indicated that the total budget allocated for the environment reached 8 million and 708 thousand dollars for the current year if which 29% were spent on biodiversity, 30% on climate change, 25% on the ozone layer, 15% on capacity building and 1% on fighting desertification. (Al Moustakbal, 7/9/2001).

◀ **The environment: many problems, open files but few solutions**
(by Kassem Chabb, Rural and Environment Activist)

Many environment-related issues have been raised recently. However, most of the relevant laws, regulations and legislations remain ineffective or are still awaiting the executive decrees and procedures, despite the creation of the Ministry of Environment in the early 90s. This is expected to have negative repercussions on natural resources, national

divergences are a serious obstacle to at the level of the Ministry of Environment given that the executive decrees and annexes relevant to the Ministry have not been completed so far. Also, the promulgation of most of the laws in the last 10 years was made under pressure and the lobbying of environment associations and organizations as well as environment activists and have not been enforced for the same reasons.

The following is a quick overview of some of these laws and issues at hand:

A- Quarries and cracking plants: Quarries and cracking plants constitute an open wound on the environment level. In fact, they bite away gradually wide areas of mountains and hills freely, without control, despite the numerous decisions and legislations still not enforced. Also, there are no precise accounts of the number of quarries and cracking plants. According to the syndicate of owners of quarries and cracking plants, they amount to 73 authorized and unauthorized plants. While according to the estimates of the ministries of Interior and of Environment, they are 95; 274 according to a 1996 study by Dar Al-Handasa; and 380 according to monitoring sources in 1995. This great disparity in the figures may be explained by the fact that most of the quarries and cracking plants work without authorization but according to administrative deadlines granted by the Ministry of Interior and the municipalities or by the governors in the Mohafazat. Indeed, the Council of Ministers adopted on the 28/7/1999 the decision n.31 by virtue of which a 2-year deadline for quarries and cracking plants will be granted to legalize their activities; this deadline will also be sufficient to complete the initial procedures for the enforcement of the Master Plan for quarries and cracking plants. On the 7/6/1994, the Council of Ministers vested in the General Directorate of Urban Planning the task of preparing the Master Plan. Accordingly, Dar Al-Handasa elaborated the Master Plan for a total cost of 1 billion L.P. approximately. The Council of Ministers gave its approval in principle after making the necessary amendments during its meeting held on the 8/5/1997.

Other amendments were adopted by the Council of Ministers on the 8/5/1997. On the other hand, the Ministry of Interior issued a memorandum on the 28th of August 2001 to inform the owners of quarries and cracking plants that all administrative deadlines will expire on

28/7/1999. On the 18/10, the Council of Ministers decided to extend the administrative deadlines until the 28/6/2002 due to the lack of executive plans and mechanisms in the Master Plan, in addition to the public and private opposition, especially in the regions chosen for quarries and cracking plants.

The Minister of Environment Akram Chehayyeb adopted five regulatory decisions at the end of 1998 defining the necessary conditions and documents for the exploitation of quarries, cracking plants, sand excavators, and digging sites. However, the Council of Ministers did not adopt them nor were the regulatory decisions of the Ministry of Environment enforced. The amounts due to the Treasury are estimated at 8 billion 785 million L.P. if the 1998 proposals, decisions, and regulatory decrees of the Ministry of

Environment are enforced. The amounts currently paid do not exceed 140 million L.P., while millions of dollars are being invested in this sector which works illegally according to administrative deadlines. Environment experts fear for the future if the current situation continues, stressing the need to implement the Master Plan, in addition to the execution of

technical conditions for authorization.

B- The Environment Charter: Five years have passed since the Environment Charter has been sent to the ad hoc parliamentary committees (the Environment Committee and the Legal and Administrative Committee). At the end of last September, the Legal and Administrative Committee created a subcommittee to study the Charter. The Committee will present its report and conclusions within a month upon receipt. According to the deputy Mikhail Al-Daher, Chairman of the Legal and Administrative Committee, in an interview with Al-Safir on the 9th of October

to reach an agreement in order to complete this project. Meanwhile, environment stakeholders and other environment and will have to see whether the given deadline to publish the results will be respected.

C- The Indexes of the Lebanese Environment and Development Research Institute: The Institute came up with 90 indexes reflecting the challenges and pressures facing the environment in Lebanon, especially with regard to the living environment, the depletion of natural resources, pollution and its repercussions on air, water, soil, and biodiversity.

The Institute considers that the indexes are standards which reflect, directly or indirectly, the quality of the environmental and developmental conditions and the pressures resulting from human and natural activities which have an impact on the environment and development. They represent also a useful tool to watch the main features of change and contribute in the planning and management activities, in addition to serving as a communication tool between man and its environment. The project manager, M. George Akl divided them into three categories: pressure indexes; status indexes; interaction indexes. He explained that the latter monitor the policies and procedures used to face the occurring changes by stressing the positive aspects of an adequate management of problems.

The Institute defined 29 indexes related to air, water, soil, and biodiversity, of which 15 are pressing indexes. According to the 1998 pesticide import index and waste generation index, Lebanon imported 326 tons of pesticides and generated 1166 tons of industrial wastes containing heavy metals, therefore making them hazardous. In addition to 108 tons of industrial oils, 538 tons of paint from industrial plants, 3000 tons of domestic wastes, and 4000 tons of hospital wastes. These figures have serious meanings given the complete

Director noted a severe lack in the available quantitative and qualitative information on
ave for example a precise estimate of

drinking water. Also, the indexes will serve as a basis for reporting on the environment to be completed shortly by the Ministry of
-Mustqbal, 25/9/2001).

D- Air pollution: The environment associations were surprised that no executive mechanisms for the law n.341 to limit air pollution have been established so far and none of its articles enforced in terms of prohibiting small diesel cars which are violating the law. In addition to the retrieval of 10000 public registration plates and the lack of incentives to modernize taxi cars. The associations issued a statement expressing their fear regarding the delay in the enforcement of the law, calling upon the government to respect the law and enforce it for the public benefit. The statement expressed the view of the Lebanese

Gathering for the Protection of the Environment; the Lebanese Association for the Environment and Development; the Consumer Association; Greeline; the Environment Protection Committee; the Association for the Protection of the Environment and Heritage; GreenOcean. (Al-Mustaqbal, 11/10/2001)

E- Maritime and river properties: Since the early 90s, several environment associations and the supporting and opposing governmental and parliamentary officials have raised the issue of infractions to maritime properties, as some call them. The environment associations used to raise it for environmental and social reasons, and the supporting and opposing governmental and parliamentary officials for several reasons, some of which are electoral, some others intended to embarrass their opponents, or to ensure financing for the budget or to fill part of the deficit. Few of them dealt seriously with this issue based on a genuine dialogue with the environment associations and organizations. The issue of maritime properties was top priority in the media and the activities and efforts of many environment associations and activists and non-governmental and professional associations. These efforts aimed at freeing the properties from their violators and enforcing the relevant regulatory laws. Despite the urgent need for new financial resources to lower the budget deficit, the successive governments and the exploitation of this issue by the political parties in order to embarrass their enemies, the law has still not been enforced nor the violations eliminated. No settlement was reached so far and no extra revenues benefited the Treasury.

The revenue estimates in case of settlement of infractions to maritime properties are very ill-matched. In this regard, the former deputy Wadi Akl stated repeatedly that they amount to about 6 billion USD. Whereas the former Minister of Finance Dr. George Corm estimates them at about 350 billion L.P. According to the present Minister of Finance Fouad Siniora they are 40 billion L.P. approximately. This great difference in the figures is due on the one hand to the use of different methods to estimate the price of lands and on the other hand to the procedures used to calculate and distribute the fees over previous years.

The issue of maritime properties may have received some attention; however, another related issue remains untackled, i.e. the river properties, also regulated by the same law n. 144 of 1925 applicable to maritime properties. M. Habib Maalouf tried to stir attention to this problem some time ago. (Al-Safir, 1/10/2001)

The former Minister of Finance Dr. George Corm justifies the exclusion of the infractions to river properties by the lack of a comprehensive survey of these infractions at the Ministry of Water and Electrical Resources concerned with this issue. According to ministerial sources, such survey is unlikely due to the insufficiency in specialized and qualified human resources. In this regard, the former deputy Wadi Akl proposed to vest the surveying task in the Directorate of Geographical Affairs in the Lebanese Army, especially that this Directorate has already undertaken a recognized survey of maritime properties (Al-Safir, 1/10/2001).

The river properties are considered a public domain, according to the decision n. 144 issued in June 1925, and any investment in them is regulated by a presidential decree. All riversides are occupied and exploited and very few of them are so according to a decision from the Ministry of Water and Electrical Resources, which is contrary to the law. Also, almost all riversides and riverbeds suffer from all kinds of violations, such as establishing restaurants and cafes, wastes, used water, all sorts of industrial wastes. As such, this resource was added to the list of natural and public resources which have become hazardous for health and the environment, in addition to the budgetary loss of the investment revenues in these properties as the applicable laws are not enforced.

These are but a few examples of issues and difficulties that give us an idea of the current situation of the environment and of natural resources in Lebanon. The other issues are not in a better situation. For example, the law regulating possessions is not applied properly, while forests still suffer from all kinds of violations and infractions. However, the non-execution of the laws is not confined to the environment sector only, but encompasses all other issues and fields. Administrative corruption seems to be an inescapable fatality; while balanced development is but a mere slogan for political and electoral stakes and administrative decentralization no more than a constitutional art worth noting that the problems and obstacles preventing the enforcement of the laws are due to the permanent and continuing disputes among the ruling political leaders, which deteriorate and worsen the living conditions of most citizens. Therefore, all efforts to find a solution to any of these issues, on the environment, social or educational levels, are necessary but insufficient unless coupled with a genuine remedy to the structural political unbalance which resulted in wrong political practices on all levels and in all fields, thus generating more problems and repeated crises

III NGO NEWS

◀ **The National Union of NGOs partners of MOSA is granted official registration**

The National Union of NGOs partners of MOSA was granted official registration by the Ministry of Interior on 6 September 2001. This was formally announced during a press conference that was attended by the Minister of Social Affairs, Dr. Assad Diab and

Toufic Osseiran. The union which currently groups 55 NGOs has the following objectives:

- Consolidating the partnership relation with the government as represented by the Ministry of Social Affairs;
- Protecting and developing the current contractual agreements within the framework of projects covered by these agreements;
- Representing the partner NGOs and supporting their lobbying efforts vis--vis donors;
- Exchanging experiences and services amongst NGOs members of the union.

During the press conference, Mr. Osseiran described the process of obtaining official registration and emphasized that the Union carries a lot of potential if two conditions are secured namely a good collaboration with and support from the Ministry of Social Affairs and the mobilization of NGOs and their adherence to this Union.

◀ **The Ministry of Social Affairs: Decrease in budget and repeated difficulties with NGOs**

Next year, the budget of the Ministry of Social Affairs will decrease slightly from 106,720,518,000 in 2001 to LBP 106,267,962,000 (i.e. a relatively small difference of 452,555,000). Though this decrease may seem low, NGOs have been complaining for years now of delays in the disbursement of their payments. This is all the case for the first half of 2001. Furthermore, staffs paid under joint contracts with MOSA have not been paid their salaries for the last 2 months. These contracts were exceptionally released in 2 parts of this delay, MOSA had issued warnings of termination notice to all those covered by such contracts as well as notices of termination of contracts with the NGOs in question.

- 66% for contracts with welfare institutions (orphanages, homes for the elderly, welfare and rehabilitation for the disabled)
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- 9.5% for joint projects with NGOs who for their part are required to fund 30% of the costs of the MOSA supported projects
- 10% for co-funding joint projects with international organizations

Since its inception in 1993, the budget of the Ministry of Social Affairs had been steadily increasing to 36.7 billion Lebanese pounds and reached 95 billions LBP in 1998. The figure fell to 68 billions in 1999 then went up to 84 billion for 2000 and 106.720 billion for 2001. In 2000,

An overview

addition to 1560 contractuals.

The total monthly salary bill reached 907 million Lebanese pounds and is distributed as such:

- for 116 employees
- contractuals
- 215 millions/month to cover 510 staff of joint projects with local and international NGOs

It is to be noted that MOSA has had to use up its reserve fund to honour joint contracts

had met with the Finance Minister, Mr. Fouad Saniora, some three months ago and both agreed that some budget heads will be revised within the parameters of the 2002 budget

legal to use allocated funding for projects which, have not been implemented yet. As such, a sum of 2 billion Lebanese pounds were used to honour contractual agreements with NGOs and a second sum of 400 million pounds was used to top up the 688 million pounds figure

Lebanese pounds allocated for co-funding projects with international NGOs has remained unchanged.

Some 150 NGOs have agreed to set up a coordination body so as to strengthen their negotiation position vis--vis MOSA following delays in honouring payments and notifications of termination of contracts as described above. The Ministry had indicated that these delays were due to its on-going evaluation of its projects. The head of this new NGOs umbrella, Mr. Tawfic Osseyran, indicated in an interview with the Al Safir daily that NGOs for their part have welcomed the evaluation process and expressed their desire for an active participation in it as well as for the need to include all the other activities of the Ministry in that exercise.

(Al Safir, 17 September 2001)



A round up of the Cabinet meetings during the month of September 2001 has indicated the following agenda items and proposed legislations and decrees related to NGOs and civil society:

- A request by the Ministry of Social Affairs to renew the joint contracts with local NGOs as of 1 July 2001 and to cover the commitments during the period when payments were frozen and until the date of the effective renewal of these contracts (cabinet meeting of 6 September 2001).
- A request by the Ministry of Social Affairs to participate in an international conference organized in Madrid on 13 and 14 September. Travel is provided free whilst other expenses are to be covered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (cabinet meeting of 6 September 2001).
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- September 2001)
- A proposal from the Ministry of Economy to refrain from attending the WTO 4th ministerial meeting to be held in Doha between 9 and 13 November 2001 (cabinet meeting of 13 September 2001)
- A proposal by the Ministry of Sports and Youth to transfer an amount of 125 million Lebanese pounds from its budget to that of the Central Bureau of Statistics in order to undertake a comprehensive survey of the situation of youth clubs, sports, youth and scouts organizations (carried forward from cabinet meeting of 16 August to cabinet meeting of 13 September 2001)
- A proposal from the Ministry of Social Affairs to waive compliance with the content of regular contracts for certain associations (cabinet meeting of 13 September 2001)
- A proposal from the Ministry of Social Affairs for the disbursement of financial assistance to Caritas-Liban (cabinet meeting of 20 September 2001)
- A proposal from the higher council of relief for waiving taxation on a donation of diesel operated cars for the benefit of the disabled and orphans projects (cabinet meeting of 27 September 2001)

◀ **The NGO Resources Centre: A joint project between UNDP and USAID**

Twenty NGOs and umbrella organizations were invited by UNDP and USAID to take part in a consultative meeting at the UN House to discuss a new project for the setting up of a NGO resource centre. The joint project aims at setting up a specialized centre for services to NGOs in Lebanon through providing resources and training. It is based on a concept paper developed by both organisations and which point out to the gaps and needs of the NGO sector in Lebanon. The project identifies a strategy for developing the NGO sector whilst suggesting activities extending over a three years period with financial support and administration by UNDP and USAID. Following the first three years, the plan stipulates that the project will be transferred to a local organisation so as to ensure its sustainability. Both organisations suggested that the National Democratic Institute be nominated for managing the project during the initial 3 years period. A number of points and questions were raised during the consultative meeting in relation to the assessment of needs for the project as described in the project background while stressing its importance. Most of the feedback pointed out to the need of relying on an accurate analysis of the NGO sector, its nature, and needs and on the active participation of NGOs in planning the project. The participants agreed to

hold a subsequent consultative meeting after reviewing the minutes of the first meeting which will include participants comments and feedback (Majal).



Lebanon

Around 7000 individuals, mostly students, employees, housewives, self employed, and free computer and internet training programme in various parts of North Lebanon over the past year and a half. MP Mohammed AsSafadi, the patron of the association, has declared that he felt it was his duty to work on raising awareness and capacities of the population of North Lebanon following the years of the gory war which deprived Lebanon of its pioneering role and capacities in science, medicine and technology. AsSafadi ascertained that the successive post-war governments have focused on rebuilding infrastructure rather than on raising the standards and potentials of human resources. The purpose of this initiative, as As Safadi puts it, is to enable and encourage Northerners to learn more and launch their own initiatives in the their region, to promote linkages between the North and the external world and break the isolation of this region. Applicants over 16 years of age or having completed their brevet level are eligible to enrol in these courses. The teachers employed by the programme are mostly young men and women from the North. New centres are expected to reach 12 in the region given that the plan stipulates the launch of a total of 16 centres. To be reminded that the or area of

Kobbe in Tripoli and is restricted for students whereas the other centres scattered in Zahiryah, Mina and Abou Samra as well as the forthcoming centre in Bab el Tabbaneh are open for the public. Other centres in the North are in Batroun, Koura, Zghorta, Becharre, Donnyeh, and al Minyeh. Forthcoming centres will be in Akkar and Douma. AsSafadi aims at furthering computer literacy and is considering responding to requests received for launching similar initiatives in Kesrwan and Byblos. The centres do not charge any fees in view of the dire economic situation and are now seeking to include French and English classes in collaboration with existing cultural centres. (AnNanar, 26/9/2001)

← The National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) launches its legal counselling services

NCLW launched the second phase of its legal awareness programme for women with the setting up of free legal counselling units located within the community centres of the Ministry of Social Affairs in Achrafieh, Ghobeyri, Aleyh, Borj Hammoud, Saida, Nabatieh, Zahle, and Tripoli/Mina. Lawyers will be providing free legal advice for employed women and school teachers for 2 hours every day. According to its plan, NCLW will gradually increase in the number of these legal advice units should there be a need for that. Prior to the launch, NCLW had in collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of Social Affairs organised a number of legal awareness raising seminars in more than 25 MOSA community centres all over the country. These seminars will be carried out till November 2001 and more may be planned according to request. Awareness raising seminars may be held in the MOSA community centres, municipalities or public schools for groups of 20 to 25 workingwomen. The sessions extend over 2 to 3 hours and cover issues related to labour laws, rights of workingwomen and the National Social Security Fund. Brochures are then distributed to women for further reference. NCLW invites those interested in such seminars to contact its offices in Hazmieh on 05-955102. (Al Dyar, 1/9/2001)

◀ **Bayt Al Zakat regional meeting in Beirut**

Bayt al Zakat held its fourth meeting in Beirut in the presence of a number of organisations in charge of implementing various Dar al Zakat projects outside Kuwait. The theme of the

organisations from 8 countries where Bayt al Zakat is active took part in this meeting. These included the Islamic Association and the Islamic Education Society in Kuwait, the Green Waqf Mosque in Turkey, the office of the Kuwaiti Joint committee for relief in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Islamic AbounNour compound in Syria, the Kuwaiti office for welfare projects in Egypt, the Islah Social and the Welfare Association in Yemen. Participants from Lebanon included the Zakat Fund of Dar el Fatwa, Bayt al Zakat of Tripoli, the Islamic Council for welfare in Saida, and the Islah association. The conveners of the meeting stated that its purpose was to develop activities and programmes in social and economic development and to monitor the implementation of current projects in collaboration with the project holders as well as to upgrade the efficiency of administrative and organisational work at the level of country offices and committee. The meeting also aimed at exchanging experiences and coordinating efforts in charity work. This meeting is part of Kuwaiti Bayt al Zakat strategy for 2000-2005.

◀ **The meeting of the Arab NGOs Network is postponed**

Prince Talal Bin Abdel Aziz, the president of AGFUND and the president of the Arab NGOs network, has announced that following consultations with NGOs and other stakeholders, the regional meeting for the founding of the Arab NGOs network which was scheduled to be held in Beirut from 24 to 26 September will be postponed in view of the recent travel difficulties arising after the 11 September attacks on the USA. (Al Nahar, 20 September 2001).

◀ **Educational grants from the African Islamic Relief Agency**

The African Isl

Kuwaiti solidarity and relief committee/Lebanon office and with funding from the International xxx/Switzerland and the Holy Land Association in Lebanon. Five hundred needy and/or orphan school students benefited from this assistance. (An Nahar, 24/9/2001)

◀ **NGOs, clubs and groups in Tripoli pledge for a social assistance fund of 60 million LBP**

The general assembly of the forum for municipalities and NGOs in the Tripoli area met to discuss the agenda of its coordinating bureau. The assembly agreed the disbursement of 20 million LBP for school satchels, 20 million LBP for the productive families project and 20 million LBP for the forum of disabled project aiming at securing employment for the disabled within their own environment.

(Al Mustakbal, 5/9/2001)

◀ **Reply from the leadership of the Lebanese Business Women**

The president-elect of the association of Lebanese business women, Ms. Leila Karame, condemned the criticism expressed by dissenting members of the association and regarding the proceedings of the latest elections of the new administrative board claiming that these were not based on facts and were not legally justified. Karame indicated that the relevant authorities had officially condoned the legitimacy of the latest elections. (Al Nahar, 5/19/2001).

◀ **The financial crisis at Al Makassed Islamic Associations: A Cash Flow Problem or more of a deep rooted symptom**

(This article is a summary of a longer article written in Arabic by Mr. Mehieddine Chehab, the president of the Ras Beirut Social Committee. The full Arabic text is published in the AnNahar daily of 31 August 2001 and re-published in the Arabic version of Majal issue 4).

The financial crisis of the Al Makassed Associations has been more apparent during the last few days giving its escalating debts that have reached some 25 million dollars in addition to repayments on accrued interests. This has prompted many Beirutis to question the reasons behind this financial crisis. In doing so, many have tried to analyse the crisis and some have gone into blaming those responsible for the institution whilst pointing out to conflict of interests and to mismanagement especially over the last three decades. This has prompted a visit to the current president of the Associations Mr. Amin Mohammed al Daouk in order to inquire about the root causes of the current crisis and about the situations of the Associations. Mr. Daouk proved to be totally transparent and shared with us accurate facts regarding the crisis. According to him, the past period has been very difficult but nit insurmountable as Al Makassed has gone through similar difficulties before and has been able to overcome them.

Mr Daouk told us that the crisis is mainly related to the identity of the Associations which since inception aimed at providing social, educational and national services on a non-profit basis. This entails a substantial cost which the Association cannot possibly meet without the support primarily from wealthy and charitable Muslims in Lebanon but also from some Arab countries notably Saudi Arabia. He indicated for instance that the education department provides services almost free of charge to beneficiaries but with the same quality as other private schools. Daouk totally refuted charges of mismanagement or excessive spending and wastage.

Whilst respecting the opinion of Mr. Daouk, we wish to point out to a number of external factors which have created an obstacle in the advancement of Al Makassed as well as other Moslem associations and which relate to transformations within the Moslem community of Beirut. These need to be thoroughly studied and can be summarized as follows:

- Demographical changes which have driven many Beirutis to live outside Beirut
- The decline on the financial situation of Muslim merchants as a result if the long years of war and therefore the decrease in their ability to financially support Al Makassed.
- The emergence of new educational and welfare associations which have developed their own schools and dispensaries and which are able to compete with Al

Makassed. Given their political linkages, these new associations are able to draw beneficiaries away from Al Makassed.

- Decreased moral support for Al Makassed amongst Beirut Muslims as a result of changes in the Moslem culture which originally value welfare towards valuing material and personal interests.
- Decrease of financial aid from Arab countries.

employment, poor administration and poor linkages with Makassed graduates and alumni have all been at the root of the current crisis.

There is a need to hold urgent meetings with stakeholders and those able to contribute to finding solutions namely PM Rafic Hariri, former Ministers and the Al Makassed Board of Trustees as well as financially well off Beirutis. PM Hariri can play, jointly with the current Makassed president, a critical role given his strong ties with Arab countries as well as his Beirut leadership. Dar al Fatwa can also play an important role in mobilizing Moslems to support al Makassed.

Mehieddine Chehab, Mokhtar

IV GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES INTERNATIONAL AID

◀ **The Ministry of Finance and the World Bank sign an agreement for the development of marginalized regions**

On 14 September 2001, the World Bank signed an agreement in the Ministry of Finance headquarters covering a 20-

managed by the Council for Development and Reconstruction and implemented by non-governmental associations and organizations to be jointly selected by the World Bank and the Lebanese Government. The project is seen as an efficient and sustainable tool for the improvement of both the social and economic conditions in particularly disadvantaged areas. The project aims at:

- Providing adequate opportunities and conditions to facilitate access to basic social and economic services by supporting local initiatives, thus enabling marginalized communities to benefit from educational, health, and environmental services.
- Improving the economic conditions of low-income families and communities through basic skills training and upgrading the capacities of enterprises and individuals. This will result in boosting productivity, increasing income, and therefore curbing unemployment.
- Developing social programs meeting the special needs of youth, women, children, disabled persons, and the elderly.

The project will be implemented in a number of geographical areas considered to be socially and economically disadvantaged. The identification of these areas was based on the findings of social studies conducted by local groups and international organizations active in this field. Implementing NGOs will develop plans of action based on needs assessment and prioritisation process within each region and in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and other concerned Ministries. Implementation will be in the form of small projects fulfilling specific standards and in coordination with local bodies, municipalities, and target groups. The project will spread over 5 years and will involve a

total cost of 30 million USD, of which 20 millions are financed by the World Bank through a concessional loan, while the Lebanese Government will provide up to 5 million USD, and the remaining 5 million USD will originate from cash proceeds generated from the targeted beneficiaries (Al-Mustaqbal and Al-Dyar, 14/9/2001).

◀ **USAID grants 15 million dollars for the development of municipalities**

The Minister of Interior and Municipalities signed a memorandum of understanding with the director of USAID in Lebanon, John Burslar, and the director of the New York Albanay University Mahmoud al Batlouni, which will grant the Ministry and the municipalities of Lebanon a total of USD 15 million for implementing a jointly agreed three year development plan. The plan aims at building the administrative and financial capacities of municipalities, simplifying and standardizing ways of working amongst major municipalities, as well as introducing computerization systems.

The MoU includes the following:

- Providing administrative assistance to municipalities so as to develop its financial and administrative capacities;
- Equipping administrations in major administrative centres (mohafazat, caza) so as to increase the efficiency of the bureaucracy;
- Standardizing administrative procedures;
- Providing ICT training for staff and employees;
- Building websites.

(AnNahar, 29/8/2001)



of children

Dr Salah Abou Raad, General Manager of Cellis, indicated that Cellis Company is stepping up social effort initiated in August 2001 and will be allocating up to 700 000 USD in funding support. He added that the Company is now giving a new brand to this social

of education, abused, threatened by delinquency or are actually delinquent and disabled.

e principle of integration

according to the values of the community it serves, and following the example of the mother Company France Telecom which deals with autism, music, and establishing social linkages through the innovative use of the Internet. Also, Cellis provides childhood care services through the financing of ready-to-implement projects for well-known associations active in this field.

Cellis will finance eleven new projects in 2001 through the Ajyal project to be added to those being implemented as per the 2000 budget.

The Ajyal new projects are the following:

- Setting up of vocational rehabilitation clubs for 80 working or street children so as to give them the opportunity to reintegrate school. The project will be implemented by the Mouvement Social Association in the popular neighbourhoods of Tripoli, Nabaa, Jnah, and Zahle. (Cellis contribution: up to 98,260 USD).
- Launching of a program in support of public schools through the creation of library clubs, teaching foreign languages, and raising environment awareness for 700

- students aged between 4 and 14 and located in Saida. Implementing NGO: The Solidarity and Development Association. (Cellis contribution: up to 12,130 USD)
- Setting-up of a woodwork workshop for young prisoners aged between 12-18 years within the Central Prison of Roumiye. Implementing NGO: Mouvement Social. (Cellis Contribution: up to 1,650).
 - Implement a programme for 35 children with special needs aged between 3 -18 and located in Saida by offering appropriate educational opportunities, adequate social environment, as well as the necessary rehabilitation framework. Implementing NGO: Solidarity and Development Association. (Cellis contribution: 30,000 USD)
 - Provide specialized vocational education, training, and rehabilitation to fight child labour. The program entails the organization of specialized vocational training sessions in woodwork, electricity, electronics, smithery, and air conditioning which will benefit 187 children in Saida. Implementing NGO: The NGO Coordination in Saida. (Cellis contribution: 67,024 USD).
 - Funding the purchase of educational equipments for 10 public kindergartens and 6 primary public schools in the Bekaa to be implemented by the Educational Development Association.
 - Contribution to school fees for 60 disabled children all over the Lebanon. Implementing NGO: Sesobel.
 - Purchase of equipments for the vocational rehabilitation centre for girls specialized in hotel management and nursing for girls aged between 13-18. Implementing NGO: Women Development Association.
 - Purchase of equipment for local workshops in cooking and pastry for children with mild disability in Tripoli. Implementing NGO: Fista Association.
 - Procurement of necessary equipments for holding awareness-raising seminars on drugs and risks related to drug abuse among school students. Implementing NGO: Oum Al-Noor Association.
 - Support to the expansion of the anti-delinquency centre for girls located in Borj -Amal Association. (Al-Nahar and Al-Safir, 14/9/2001).

◀ **CHF/AMIN Programme for small enterprises**

As reported in the second issue of Majal, the Credit Libanais Bank launched the Amin Program in all its branches. Following are some additional information on the programmes, objectives and modalities.

The Amin Program in support of small projects will contribute to the consolidation of social and economic stability in various Lebanese regions by enabling low-income categories to have access to small loans and credits, in addition to similar financial services provided by commercial banks. The Cooperative of Housing Foundation (CHF) launched the Amin Program in January 1998 thanks to a donation from USAID and an agreement in June

2001, CHF signed another agreement with the Credit Libanais Bank to grant loans for the Amin Program through CLB different branches. In an Interview with Al-Nahar on August

holders of small enterprises and laying the foundations for a long-term. According to Ms Baydas, the loans earmarked for individual current small enterprises

marketing capacity, its solvability towards the bank concerned, and the available guarantee. The loan is reimbursed through equal monthly payments at Jammal Trust Bank according to a deadline ranging between 4 and 12 months, based on the payment schedule given to the borrower. The interest rate is 28% as a start-up in addition to 3% for service expenses. The requested guarantee can be provided in cash or through a guarantor. Concerning the conditions for joining the program, Ms Baydas indicated that any man or woman holding a current professional small project may join the program for one year, provided they are Lebanese or holders of a legal residence permit and over 21 years of age. To apply for a loan, the candidate should call the loan officer in the Amin program in the participating Bank to receive all necessary information. Following the request, the candidate should provide the needed information and data and fill the application form. The application form is then submitted to a committee for assessment, the final decision being taken within two weeks. In case of approval, the borrower will receive the loan from the approached branch. The loan can be renewed the first time within one week, the second time within one day only. Finally, Baydas noted that the total amount of loans allocated until July 31, 2001 has reached 3000 USD. While the total number of actual borrowers reached 2500 and the granted amounts 5 million USD. The total size of available loans is 9.1 million USD and the reimbursement rate 100%. (Al-Nahar, 27/8/2001).

◀ **The winning development projects of the AGFUND Program**

Prince Talal Bin Abdel Aziz, president of the Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Program (AGFUND), announced the winning projects of the Arab Gulf Prize year. The Prize committee had chosen the winners during its meeting held on September 5, 2001 at the AGFUND headquarters in Riyadh and chaired by Prince Talal. The Prize amounts to 300 000 USD divided into three categories.

implemented by international and regional organizations in the field of ICT use in education and health. The project is implemented by the Multilateral Global Satellite Corporation and benefited 40 African countries.

implemented by non-governmental organizations offering micro credits through small cooperatives. The Businessmen Association in Egypt implements the project in Alexandria.

Bankar Roy won the Prize for the third category related to projects executed by individuals for the promotion of volunteering on the community level. Furthermore, the committee decided to offer the 40 million USD worth Initiative Prize to the Epilepsy Campaign Project executed by Ms Asma Anright in Saudi Arabia. On the other hand, the committee approved the categories for the fourth AGFUND Prize as follows:

- international and regional organizations.
- on and Social Integration of those with
- -

The prize for the first category amounts to 150 000 USD, for the second category to 100 000 USD, and for the third category to 50 000 USD. The winners also receive plates and certificates during a special ceremony.

There were 114 candidate projects for this year representing 95 countries from the five continents. The candidate projects fulfilling the required conditions were submitted for evaluation to qualified arbitrators in the various categories to determine their compliance (Al-Nahar, 5/9/2001).

◀ **Three new grants of 118, 000 USD from the Japanese Embassy**

The Japanese embassy in Beirut offered 3 new grants for a total amount of 118,000 USD as part of its NGO targeting program. The first grant consisted in providing a state-of-the-art, 48,000 USD worth Braille printer for Save the Children-UK to be used by the Ministry of Education during the preliminary official examinations of visually impaired students in addition to the distribution of Braille books. The second grant will cover medical equipments and office supplies for Secours Populaire Libanais to equip the dispensary in the village of Al-Fakiha in the Bekaa at a cost of 34 880 USD. The third grant is worth 35,000 USD and will enable Dr. Mohammad Khaled Social Foundation to purchase two school buses for their primary school. (Al-Mustaqbal, 13/9/2001 and Al-Nahar, 26/9/2001).

◀ **USD 500,000 grant for the Lebanese American University**

The Lebanese American University announced in a meeting attended by President Ryad Nassar and its development director Raja Nahhas, that MP Nehmeh Tohmeh and Mr. Rizk Risk have donated half a million dollars for erecting an additional building within the

e

(Al Nahar, 7/9/2001)

◀ **USD 30,000 from the British Embassy to the Ruwad Foundation for Professional Training**

The British Embassy in Beirut offered, as part of its efforts to enhance the professional skills of youth in the South and to develop their educational level, a grant of 30 000 USD to the Ruwad Foundation for Professional Training in support of its training program in South Lebanon. The British contribution has enabled the Foundation to hold two training sessions, the first held in last July in Aley and the second, which has recently ended in Tyre. The latter targeted the youth in the South especially in the liberated areas and was financed through British aid allocation to South Lebanon.

The Ruwad Foundation for Professional Training is a social developmental non-profit organization. It aims at developing and improving the social and economic situation in all regions of the country through developing the capabilities of young people so as to facilitate their access to economic life. This is being made possible through specialized training sessions that help them to design small projects which may in turn subsequently receive, in case of success, a financial support in the form of loans. The Foundation started working about one year and a half ago and has already trained 222 young people and funded 13 small projects so far. (Al-Nahar, 6/9/2001)

a- NGO Registration

1- Poetry Forum in Baakleen Registration 178/AD

Baakleen Kfar Hassid Street M. Adel Badro Bldg Casa of Shouf

Goals:

- 1- Disseminating popular culture (spoken poetry) and literary poetry to enrich the country and foster patriotic feelings among individuals and society as a whole.
- 2- Disseminating and reviving the heritage of local poets from this village, provided that the aforementioned articles are implemented according to all applicable laws and regulations.

Thoukan Chahine Abdel Samad, Akram Malek Takieddine, Mounir Amine Bou Hatoum Hamadeh, Adel Farhan Bdour, Nadim Amine Barjas, Chafik Khalil Al-Assaad Hamadeh.

Official representative: Adel Farhan Bdour.

2-

Hasbayya Registration 180/AD

Beirut May Ziadeh Street Residence of Princess Carla Chehab.

Goals:

Collaborating with the competent authorities in order to restore, rehabilitate, protect, and preserve the Chehabite

mainly:

- Organizing social and cultural activities.
 - Holding conferences and meetings.
- Provided it is done according to all applicable laws and regulations and upon approval of the competent authorities.
Carla Reneh Chehab, Chafik Saleh Mahram, Sami Charif Kays, Prince Ziyad, Pr

Official representatives:

3- Charitable Association of Haouch Mesraya Registration 181/AD

Haouch Mesraya Al-Husseini Club Street Casa of Baalbek

Goals:

- 1- Improving social, cultural, historic, and health conditions for its members.
- 2- Creating health and educational institutions within the available capabilities and according to all applicable laws and regulations and upon approval of the competent authorities.

- 2- Assisting in the setting up of a national record to monitor breast-related diseases.
- 3- Introducing and managing early detection national programs.
- 4- Assisting in the treatment of breast-related diseases.
- 5- Cooperating with the competent ministries, public and private health institutions, and health personnel in order to optimize health services for those suffering from breast-related diseases.

Mohyeddine Kronfol, Dr. Henrietta Patricia Odine Abella, Dr. Layla Toufic Tabshouri, Najwa Mohammad Mounir Al-Nouwayri, Dr. Sossi Richard Tarsapian, Bassam Toufic Tabshouri.

Official representative: Dr. Layla Toufic Tabshouri.

6- Registration 183/AD

Tripoli Al-Tall Motran Street Al-Zablit Bldg Amine Arnaout (Owner)

Goals:

- 1- Providing training sessions for students preparing the official exams in all fields of specialization.
- 2- Organizing cultural and educational conferences and seminars.
- 3- Offering scholarships and educational and social financial aids for students and needy persons, while providing care and guardianship on both educational and social levels.
- 4- Publishing specialized cultural and educational studies and bulletins.
- 5- Provided that the aforementioned articles are implemented according to all applicable laws and regulations and upon approval of the competent authorities.

Ali Saadallah Al-Karhani, Amer Amine Arnaout, Haytham -Jassem,

Malaka Fouad AlWawi.

Official representative: Amer Amine Arnaout.

7- Charitable Women League in Borkaye I Registration 184/AD

Borkayel Al-Asmar Street Abdel Sater Bldg Casa of Akkar

Goals:

- 1- Ensuring social and cultural development of Borkayel.
- 2- Promoting charitable women activities.
- 3- Fostering educational, cultural, and charitable activities.
- 4- Preserving and protecting the environment.

-Asmar, Chadia

Abdel Rahman Ahmad Al-Hassan, Fatima Ahmad Al-Hassan, Fatima Abdel Sater Al-Asmar.

Official representative: Fatima Ahmad Al-Hassan.

b- Registration cancellation

Registration

177/AD

Location: Harat Horeik Baabda Casa

Following the request n. 3272/2 submitted on the 12/4/2000 by the members of the aforementioned Association requesting to approve the dissolution of this Association for lack of resources during its business and the growing needs of the beneficiaries which exceed its capacities, along with the approval of the General Directorate of General Security in its letter n.3387/A of the 12/7/2001; following the readings of the Legislative and Consultative Committee n.283 of the 22/7/1999; following the proposal of the General Director of Internal Security Forces, it was decided to revoke the registration 108/AD of the 5/7/199

reason.

c- Registration amendment

Amendment of the registration 402/AD of the 20/8/1968 given to the association called

Location: Beirut

competent authorities; following the proposal of the General Director of Internal Security

virtue of the registration 402/AD of the 20/8/1968 shall be amended as follows:

Goal:

- a) Gathering and unifying writers, coordinating their efforts, improving their material and moral living conditions.
- b) houses and medias.
- c) he dissemination and translation of new works.
- d) Reviving the intellectual and creative heritage through preservation and dissemination.
- e) Reactivating the intellectual life and encouraging young writers.
- f) Defending the freedom of thinking and of expression.
- g) Tightening relations between Lebanese, Arab, and other writers worldwide.

Instead of:

- a) Gathering and unifying writers, and coordinating their efforts.
- b)
- c) Giving due attention to the works, and encouraging the translation of global heritage into Arabic.

- d) Reviving the intellectual life and supporting young writers.
- e)
- f)
- g) Tightening relations between Lebanese, Arab, and other writers worldwide.

VI BOOKS AND RESOURCES

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

In English:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR / EDITOR</u>	<u>PUBLISHER</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>#OF PAGES</u>
Implementing the Ethiopian National Policy for Women	Office -Ethiopia & The World Bank	Office-Ethiopia & The World Bank	1998	82
Ghana- Gender Analysis & Policymaking for Development	Shiyan Chao	The World Bank	1999	72
Ecuador Gender View-Issues & Recommendations	The World Bank	The World Bank	2000	80
Gender Analysis in Papua New Guinea	Elizabeth C. Brouwer Bruce M. Harris Sonomi Tanaka	The World Bank	1998	147
Negotiating Reproductive Rights- Perspectives Across Countries & Cultures	Rosalind P. Petchesky Karen Judd / International Reproductive Rights Research Action Group	ZED Books	1998	358
Colonial Citizens	Elizabeth Thompson	Colombia University Press- New York	1999	402
Veils and Words- The Emerging Voices of Iranian Women Writers	Farzaneh Milani	I.B.Tauris & Co. Ltd London	1992	296
Images of Enhancement- Visual & Performing Arts of the Middle East	Sherifa Zuhur	American University in Cairo	1998	324
Doria Shafik- Egyptian Feminist- A Woman Apart	Cynthia Nelson	American University in Cairo	1999	322

In Arabic:

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

You are welcome to come and consult on site the new resources as well as other titles available at the CRTD offices (refer to the address indicated below) every weekday from 10 am to 2 pm. For a complete list of books and resources, kindly contact info@crted.org
For a comprehensive listing of resources available
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
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