Emerging Economies, Emerging Leaderships:
Arab Women and Youth as Drivers of Change
AIWF Conference 15 – 17 May 2012

The Arab International Women’s Forum has great pleasure in providing the latest news of the major two-day conference entitled Emerging Economies, Emerging Leaderships: Arab Women and Youth as Drivers of Change from 15 to 17 May 2012 at the American University of Sharjah at the kind invitation of the Chancellor, Dr Peter Heath, and under the valued Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qassimi, Supreme Council Member, United Arab Emirates, Ruler of Sharjah, and Founder and President of the American University of Sharjah.

AIWF will assemble global leaders to examine the role of women and youth as drivers of change in emerging economies. In addition to exploring strategies to implement policy recommendations already identified at AIWF’s 10th Anniversary Conference held in London in May 2011, we will identify enablers for job creation in the region and other emerging economies around the world, taking the unique opportunities presented by the Arab Spring to help to shape future Arab policy and reinforcing the message that gender equality is absolutely vital to sustainable development in the new Arab world.

During its 2012 Programme, AIWF looks forward to the opportunity of recognising the role of youth in the Arab world, formulating a viable roadmap to effective empowerment for women and young people of both genders given the unprecedented opportunities presented by the Arab Spring. We will examine several notable initiatives already operating in the region including Injaz, Young Arab Leaders, Oasis 500 and the EFE Foundation, all organisations that are successful in turning their respective empowerment programme models into solid employment and networking opportunities for young job-seekers.

Confirmed Guest Speakers to date include: Mrs Raja Al Gurg, Managing Director, Easa Saleh Al Gurg, Dubai UAE; Ms Muna Abu Sulayman, Secretary General Alwaleed bin Talal Foundation, Saudi Arabia; Ms Tala Al-Hejailan, Legal Consultant, DLA Piper, Middle East LLP, Saudi Arabia; Dr Shaikha Al Maskari, Chairperson, Al Maskari Holding, Chairperson, Tricon Group, UAE; Dr Afnan Al Shuaiby, Secretary General and CEO, Arab-British Chamber of Commerce, United Kingdom; Mr David Arkless, President of Corporate & Government Affairs, Manpower Inc, UK; Ms Sara Bermudez, CEO, Inter American Culture & Development Foundation (ICDF), USA; Ms Emma Bonino, Vice President, Italian Senate, Italy; Mr Ron Bruder, Founder Chairman, Education for Employment Foundation, USA; Mrs Chiara Corazza, Managing Director, Greater Paris Investment Agency, France; Mr Amir Dossal, Founder Chairman, Global Partnerships Forum, USA; Ms Caroline Freund, Chief Economist MENA - The World Bank USA; Ms Darein Hassan, Africa Middle East Diversity Lead & Senior Regulatory Leader, Pfizer Inc, UAE; Dr Peter Heath, Chancellor, American University of Sharjah, UAE; Professor Jean-Pierre Lehmann, Founding...
Emerging Economies, Emerging Leadership: Arab Women and Youth as Drivers of Change

Director, IMD Evian Group, Switzerland; HE Dr Ahmed Luqman, Director General, Arab Labour Organisation, Egypt; Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe, Executive Chairperson, African Fashion International (AFI), South Africa; Dr Nada Mourtada-Sabbah, Vice Chancellor for Development & Alumni Affairs, American University of Sharjah, UAE; Ms Niki Tzavela MEP, Vice Chair/Member of the Bureau, Europe of Freedom & Democracy Group, European Parliament, Greece.

Participation is by an invitation-only guest list of distinguished dignitaries from diplomacy and government, leading members of the business community, international civil society and heads of leading institutions, senior representatives of the media, AIWF members and partners, AUS students, alumni and young delegates as well as leading figures from the Arab, European and international community with whom AIWF has been engaged throughout the last decade.

AIWF is pleased to have the cooperation of the American University of Sharjah as Host Partner and to advise that The World Bank and the MENA - OECD Investment Programme are in full support as Institutional Partners lending their expertise in the region. We also appreciate the support of The Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Trade. AIWF is able to acknowledge the valued support of our Benefactor Partner, PepsiCo; Principal Conference Partner, Manpower Group; Programme Partners, Petrofac Ltd, Pfizer Inc, PricewaterhouseCoopers and DLA Piper Middle East and Global Communications Partner, Memac Ogilvy.