

**1st Conference on
Arab Women in Science and Technology:
“Empowerment for the Development of the Arab World”
28 – 30 September 2009
Raffles Hotel, Dubai – United Arab Emirates**

Conference Program

Monday, 28 September 2009

20:00 – 21:00	<i>Opening Ceremony</i>
	Start of Opening Ceremony
	Speech of Dubai Business Women Council (DBWC), Faiza Al Sayed, Vice-President,
	Speech of Arab Science & Technology Foundation (ASTF), Dr. Abdalla Abdelaziz Alnajjar, President
	Documentary on the ASTF and the Arab S&T Women Empowerment Initiative
	Speech of Arab Women Association on Research, Development & Innovation (AWARD), Dr. Moza Al-Rabban, Physics Associate Professor, Qatar University / ASTF Networks General Coordinator
	Speech of ISESCO Dr. Hadi Azizzadeh, Deputy Director General
	Launch of UNESCO Report: “ <i>Science & Technology & Gender Dimension</i> ”
	Launch of Arab Women in Science and Technology Website
	Launch of L’Oreal-UNESCO- ASTF Award
	Closing Remarks
	Gala Dinner for Conference Participants including Arabic poetry reciting by Dr. Abdulla Al-Saleh Al-Othaimen, General Secretary, King Faisal International Prize

Bioengineering, Rice University, Houston, Texas, United States of America

Speakers:

Dr. Ebtesam Al-Olayan	Assistant Head, Zoology Department, College of Sciences, King Saud University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Dr. Hayat Touchan	Professor of Botany, Field Crops Department, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Aleppo, Syrian Arab Republic
Dr. Badiaa Lyoussi	Vice-President, Arab Union of Pharmacology, Faculty of Science, University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Fez, Kingdom of Morocco

12:00 – 13:00

Session 3: Panel Discussion and Working Groups (1) on Supporting and Empowerment of Arab S&T Women

Participants have the choice to join a panel discussion or working group:

Panel Discussions:

Panel (1) – Entrepreneurship and Intellectual Property

Dr. Fakhreddine Karray	Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, University of Waterloo, Canada
Dr. Nihad El Chazly	Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, National Research Center, Arab Republic of Egypt
Dr. Hanan Malkawi	Professor of Molecular Biology and Microbiology, Yarmouk University, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Dr. Wissam Rabadi	Business Development Manager / Office Manager, Arab Science & Technology Foundation (ASTF), Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Dr. Amal Amin	President, Egyptian Society for New Materials and Nanotechnology, National Research Center, Arab Republic of Egypt

Panel (2) – Medicine and Biotechnology

Dr. Samira I. Islam	Head, Drug Monitoring Unit, King Abdulaziz University Hospital, King Fahd Medical Research Center (KFMRC), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Dr. Aly Zain Elabidin Abdelsalam	Dean, Faculty of Biotechnology, Misr University for Science and Technology (MUST University), Arab Republic of Egypt
Dr. Faiza M. Hammouda	Professor of Phytochemistry, National Research Centre / Member of Permanent, Education and Scientific Research, National Council of Women, Arab Republic of Egypt

Working Groups

Working Group (1) – Monitoring and Development of Awards

Project: Monitoring the Arab Women in Science & Technology

Project: Development of Awards for Arab Women Specializing in R&D and Entrepreneurship

Working Group (2) – Networking

Project: Interconnecting Women of S&T

Project: Linking Arab Women in S&T with the International Community

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

15-Minute Speech During Lunch

Speaker:

Dr. Nina Fedoroff Special Adviser for S&T, US Department of State, United States of America

14:30 – 16:00

Session 4 (Parallel): S&T Women and Needed Development in the Arab World

This session addresses the role of Arab Women at different socio-economic levels. It highlights the desired role they play toward serving the socioeconomic development of the Arab region.

Moderator:

Dr. Yasmin Altwaijri Epidemiologist and Head of Epidemiology Research, Epidemiology and Scientific Computing, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Speakers:

Dr. Adel Tweissi Secretary-General, Higher Council for Science and Technology, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Dr. Meshgan AlAwar Secretary-General, Zayed International Prize for the Environment / Director of Research & Studies Center, Dubai Police Academy, United Arab Emirates

Ms. Jeanette Weisschuh Director Global Citizenship, Hewlett-Packard (HP) in Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA), United States of America

Dr. Abda Y. El-Mahdi Managing Director, Unicons Consultancy Ltd., Republic of the Sudan
Dr. Linda Shepherd Author of “Feminine Science”, United States of America

14:30 – 16:00

Session 5 (Parallel): Individual and Collective Efforts to Support S&T Women in the Arab World

The session will discuss the efforts and programs that are directed toward supporting women specialized in S&T including scientific societies, clubs and activities in relevant fields.

Moderator:

Dr. Rafia O. Ghubash Former President, Arabian Gulf University / President, Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology (ANWST), Kingdom of Bahrain

Speakers:

Mr. Thabet Taher Director General, Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Dr. Mohammed H. Hassan Executive Secretary, Third World Academy of Scientists, Italian Republic
Dr. Mouin Haider Hamza Secretary-General, National Council for Scientific Research, Republic of Lebanon
Dr. Abdulla Al-Saleh Al-Othaimen General Secretary, King Faisal International Prize, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

16:30 – 17:15

Session 6A: Success Stories of Women in S&T: Past and Present

The current status of Arab women does not reflect her real position in the region's history. This session will address past status of the Arab Women in Science and Technology including scientific, technological, academic and engineering fields.

Moderator:

Dr. Moza Al-Rabban Associate Physics Professor, Qatar University, State of Qatar

Speakers:

Dr. Rim Turkmani **Success Stories of Women in S&T: Past and Present**
Royal Society Research Fellow in Astrophysics, Imperial College, London, United Kingdom
Mr. Mohammed Aref **A Study on the Current Status of Arab S&T Woman in the Arab World**
Consultant on Science and Technology, United Kingdom

17:15 – 18:00

Session 6B: Regional & International Awards for Excellence in S&T in the Arab Region

International and Regional Awards will provide a summary of their programs and awards. They will also highlight Arab women winners.

- King Faisal International Prize
- Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science Award
- Third World Academy of Sciences Award
- Islamic Development Bank Award
- Zayed International Prize for the Environment
- Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Young Arab Researchers
- The Arab Thought Foundation Award
- L'ORÉAL-UNESCO Award for the Most Distinctive Woman in Science
- The Franconia Award
- Abdul Latif Jameel Grants for Funding Scientific Research

Day Two: Wednesday, 30 September 2009

09:00 – 11:00

Session 7: Business Leaders and Empowerment of S&T Women in the Arab World

In this session, business and investment leaders will express their opinions in the field of investment and community service in addition to their role in empowering their societies in general, and their role in empowering Arab Women in S&T in particular.

Moderator:

Mr. Mohamed Ali Chief Executive Officer, Mawarid, United Arab Emirates
Musabbeh Al-Neaimi

Speakers:

Dr. Olfat El-Shiaty Business Development Director, Shoura Company Group, Arab Republic of Egypt
Dr. Hashim Hussein Head, Investment & Technology Promotion Office / Director, Arab Regional Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment Training, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Kingdom of Bahrain
Mrs. Huda Janahi Chief Executive Officer, Global Cargo & Traveller's Services, Kingdom of Bahrain
Mrs. As Tazi Chief Executive Officer, DM Miami, United States of America

11:00 – 11:30

Break

11:30 – 13:00

Session 8: Panel Discussion and Working Groups (2) on Supporting and Empowerment of Arab S&T Women

Participants have the choice to join a panel discussion or working group:

Panel Discussions:

Panel (3) – Arab S&T Women and Community Participation

Dr. Mariam Al-Shnasi Executive Director (in charge) for Technical Issues / Consultant of Minister of Environment & Water (MOEW), United Arab Emirates
Dr. Badiaa Lyoussi Vice-President, Arab Union of Pharmacology, Faculty of Science at University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Fez, Kingdom of Morocco
Dr. Rokhsana Mohammed Ismail Vice-President, Third World Organization of Women in Science (TWOWS), Arab Region / Director, Women's Center for Research and Training, University of Aden, Republic of Yemen
Dr. Lamya Hayat Head of Biological Sciences Department, Kuwait University,

State of Kuwait
Dr. Hebatalla Saher Hashem Researcher, National Center for Research and Member in the
Youth Organization, Arab Republic of Egypt

Working Groups

Working Group (1) – Monitoring and Development of Awards

Project: Monitoring the Arab Women in Science & Technology

Project: Development of Awards for Arab women Specializing in R&D and Entrepreneurship

Working Group (2) – Networking

Project: Interconnecting Women of S&T

Project: Linking Arab Women in S&T with the International Community

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 16:00

Session 09 (Parallel): Science, Technology and Gender in the Arab world: Current Issues and Challenges

Gender plays a vital role in science and technology. This session will focus on presenting and discussing the UNESCO report on "Science, Technology and Gender in the Arab world: Current Issues and Challenges."

Moderator:

Dr. May Al-Jasser Chairperson, Diplomatic Arab Women Forum, Republic of Austria

Speakers:

Dr. Eduardo Martinez Garcia Chief, Section of S&T Strategic Planning, UNESCO

Dr. Hadi Azizzadeh Deputy Director General, ISESCO

Ms. Emma Hooks Vice-President, Safety Management & Environmental Quality,
Georgetown University Hospital, United States of America

14:30 – 16:00

Session 10 (Parallel): The Role of Media in Engagement of S&T Women for Development

Media has great influence in shaping community perception with regards to various issues and interests. Speakers in this session will address the different methods to direct media to bring about a positive change of culture.

Moderator:

Dr. Nadia El-Awady President, World Federation of Science Journalists / Former President and Founding Member, Arab Science Journalists Association (ASJA), Arab Republic of Egypt

Speakers:

Mr. Mohamed Burhan	Executive Editor, CNBC Arabiya, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Dr. Deborah Blum	Professor of Journalism, University of Wisconsin-Madison, United States of America
Mrs. Christina Scott	Interim Vice-President, South African Science Journalists' Association, Republic of South Africa
Ms. Sefat Salama	Science Journalist, Communicator and Researcher, University of Glamorgan, United Kingdom

16:30 – 17:30

Session 11: The Way Forward – Open Discussion

17:30 – 18:00

Closing Session