LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

AND

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION (MEEA)

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE
ECONOMICS AND FINANCE OF THE MIDDLE EAST
AND NORTH AFRICA

Byblos, Lebanon
May 27-29, 2004

Conference Program
Thursday May 27

8:30-9:00  Coffee and Registration

9:00-9:30  Opening Ceremony

A word of welcome, School of Business

A word of welcome MEEA

9:30-11:15  Political Economy I

Clement Henry, University of Texas at Austin

Transparency and Accountability in the Arab Region: A Political Economy Perspective

Ibrahim Elbadawi, World Bank

The Politics of Sustaining Growth in the Arab World: Getting Democracy Right

Mustapha K. Nabli and Marie-Ange Veganzones-Varoudakis, World Bank

How to Boost Private Investment in Middle East and North Africa? The Role of the Investment Climate

Chair: Ghassan Dibeh, LAU

11:30-1:00 Banking and Financial Markets

Khaled Al-Zubi, The Hashemite University

Structure, Competitiveness and Efficiency Aspects of Jordanian Banking Industry"

Osama Noujoum, Manchester University

Financial Liberalization, Savings, and Economic Growth: Time series evidence from Egypt,”

Moyara de Moraes Ruehsen-Haddad, Monterey Institute of International Studies

Financial Sector Adaptations to New FATF Requirements-The Middle East as a Case Study

Chair: Elias Raad, LAU

1:00-2:15 Lunch
2:15-4:00 The Economy of Palestine
Paul de Boer, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Economic consequences of Intifada
Christopher Adam, David Cobham and Nu'man Kanafani
University of St Andrews, The Royal Agricultural University of Denmark

Budgetary and fiscal policy
Sébastien Dessus and Elizabeth Ruppert Bulmer
World Bank

'The choice of trade regime

Chair: Mary Habib, LAU

4:15-6:00 Public Policy Session
Round Table Discussion on Monetary Policy
Friday May 28

9:00-11:00 Integration, Infrastructure and Regulation

Anna Ferragina (University of Rome “Tor Vergata”)
Giorgia Giovannetti (University of Florence)
Lelio Iapadre (University of L’Aquila)

Integration between South and North Mediterranean countries: measures and facts


The High Dam at Aswan: An Assessment of its Economic and Distributional Impacts for the Egyptian Economy"

Anastassios Gentzoglanis, Université de Sherbrooke

Restructuring, Regulatory Governance and Economic Growth: The Case of Electricity Sector in MENA Countries"

Chair: Jeff Nugent, University of Southern California

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-1:00 FDI and Exchange Rates

Rabiâa Mekki, GAINS Université du Maine

The impact of Foreign Direct Investment on Trade: Evidence from Tunisia's Trade

Khalid Sekkat Free University of Brussels, Belgium
Marie-Ange Veganzones-Varoudakis. CERDI, CNRS, Universite d’Auvergne, Clermont Ferrand, France and World Bank

Trade and Foreign Exchange Liberalization, Investment Climate and FDI in the MENA Countries

Nergiz Dincer, Turkish State Planning Organization

ASYMMETRIC EFFECTS OF EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS ON ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE: TURKISH EXPERIENCE

Chair: Clement Henry, University of Texas at Austin

1:00-2:15 Lunch
2:15-4:00 Political Economy II

Sheikh Shahnawaz and Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California

*Is Natural Resource Wealth Compatible With Good Governance?*

Haitham Issa, University of Manchester

*Human Capital and Economic Growth: Evidence from Syria*

Parvin Alizadeh, London Metropolitan University

*It is not only the state; the structure of the labor market and economic performance in Iran and Turkey since 1980*

Chair: Salpie Djoundourian, LAU

4:15-6:00 Economics of North Africa

Adel Boughrara, University of the Center, Tunisia

*Monetary Policy Shocks and Transmission Mechanisms in Tunisia*

Abderrezzak Benhabib, Tahar Ziani and S. Maliki, Universirty of Tlemcen, Algeria

*An Econometric Model Applied to a Multidimensionnal Field Survey in the Region of Tlemcen*

Siala Fatma, University of Tunis

*THE ENDOGENOUS MONEY HYPOTHESIS: SOME EVIDENCE FROM TUNISIA*

Chair: I. Elbedawi, World Bank