



The Arab Planning Institute – Kuwait Organizes

International Conference on

“The Unemployment Crisis in the Arab Countries”

(17-18 March 2008, Cairo- Egypt)

Agenda

Sponsored by:



**Islamic Development
Bank**



**Development and Social
Policies Department
Technical Committee of
ASAMC**



**Arab Labor
Organization**

International Conference on
“The Unemployment Crisis in the Arab Countries”
 (Sheraton Cairo Hotel, Cairo, Egypt)
17-18 March 2008

Day One: Monday 17 March 2008

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

Opening Session

09:00 – 10:00

- H.E. Dr. Ali Al-Mosailhi – Minister for Social Solidarity in Egypt - Chairman of the Executive Office of the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs
- Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Loqman –Director General/ Arab Labor Organization
- Dr. Essa Al-Ghazali, - Director General/Arab Planning Institute

Plenary Session (1) 10:00 – 11:30

Chairperson: Abdel Razaq El-Faris

10:00 – 11:30

Keynote Address: “ Understanding Unemployment in the Arab World”.

- **Authors:** Ragui Assaad and Mohamed Ramadan

11:30 – 12: 00 Tea/Coffee Break

Plenary Session (2) 12:00 – 14:00

Chairperson: Ibrahim El-Essawy

12:00 – 13:00

Paper: “Economic Growth and Unemployment in Arab Countries: Is Okun’s Law Valid?”

- **Author:** Imad A. Moosa

13:00 – 14:00

Paper: “Understanding Unemployment in the Arab Region: Towards a Policy Framework”

- **Authors:** Syed Ahsan and Xing-Fei Liu

14:00 – 15:30 Lunch Break (at Arous Elnil Restaurant)

Plenary Session (3) 15:30 – 17:30

Chairperson: Samir Radwan

15:30 – 16:30

Paper: “Informality, Economic Development, and Employment in the Arab World”

- **Authors:** Ibrahim A. Elbadawi and Norman V. Loayza

16:30 – 17:30

- **Paper:** “Unemployment and Labor Market Institutions: Theory and Evidence from the GCC”

- **Author:** Mohamed O. Suliman And Mahmoud S. Nabi

17:30 – 18: 00 Tea/Coffee Break

Chairperson: Ramadan Al-Sanasy**18:00 – 19: 30****Round Table on “Migration of Arab Workers: Problems and Solutions”****Day Two: Tuesday 18 March 2008:****Parallel Session: (Case Studies) : 09:30 – 11:30****(Conference Hall:)****(Conference Hall:)**

Chairperson: Ibrahim Elsouri		Chairperson: Hamad Mnawer	
09:30-10:30	Paper: “Unemployment in Algeria: An Analytical Approach”. Authors: Chibi Abderrahim and Shakouri Mohamed	Paper: “Towards a Better Role for the Private Sector in Solving the Unemployment Problem in Gulf Countries The Case of Kuwait”. Author: Ramadan Al-Sharrah	
10:30-11:30	Paper: “Effectiveness of Education and Training System in Arab Countries and Implication for the Unemployment Rates in the Region: A Case Study of Algeria”. Authors: Dahmani M. Drouche and Boutaleb Kouider	Paper: “Evaluation of Labour Market Strategies to Resowe the the Unemployment Challenges in Kuwait ”. Author: Belkacem Laabas	

11:30 - 12:00

Tea/Coffee Break

Plenary Session: (Case Study) : 12:00 – 14:00**Chairperson: Ola Al-Hakeem**

12:00-13:00	Paper: “Labor Market Pressures in Egypt: Why is the Unemployment Rate Stubbornly High?”. Authors: Mohamed Hassan and Cyrus Sassanpour
13:00-14:00	Paper: “Assessing the Employment Effect of FDI Inflows to Egypt : Does the Mode of Entry Matter?”. Author: Nada Massoud

14:00 - 15:30

Lunch Break (at Arous Elnil Restaurant)

Closing Session**Chairperson : Abda El-Mahdi**

15:30 - 16:30	(1) Open Discussion . (2) Closing Remarks .
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