

The Consortium for Arab Researcher Centers
“Arab Forum on Security and Nuclear Non-Proliferation”
Inauguration Statement

Amman November 12th, 2012

The first coordination meeting of Arab research centers and think tanks involved in nuclear non-proliferation and the establishment of a *Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction WMDFZ-ME* was convened in Amman on November 12th, 2012 and hosted by the Arab Institute for Security Studies.

Earlier on, the League of Arab States in cooperation with Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs (ECFA) had hosted a conference in Cairo involving Arab research centers and think tanks. The Cairo conference was held on May 28th and 29th, 2012 and concluded with an agreement to form the Arab Forum on Security and Nuclear Non-Proliferation with specific emphasis of establishing a WMDFZ-ME.

Today, the total number of research centers, organizations and think tanks that joined the consortium reached a total of 16 institutes. Participants in the Amman coordination meeting included:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1- Egyptian Council on Foreign Affairs (ECFA) | (Egypt) |
| 2- Arab Institute for Security Studies (AC SIS) | (Jordan) |
| 3- MENA Center for Strategic Studies | (Lebanon) |
| 4- Institute for Near East & Gulf Military Analysis (INEGMA) | (UAE) |
| 5- Strategic and Global Risk Assessment Center (SAGRA) | (UAE) |
| 6- Egyptian Pugwash Society for Science & International Affairs | (Egypt) |
| 7- Permanent Peace Movement (PPM) | (Lebanon) |
| 8- Iraq Council for Peace and Solidarity | (Iraq) |
| 9- Arab Thought Forum (ATF) | (Jordan HQ) |
| 10- Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies | (Egypt) |
| 11- Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization | (Egypt) |

As a result of the Amman deliberations hosted by the Arab Institute for Security Studies on November 12th, 2012, the following was agreed upon:

- Declare the creation of the Arab Forum on Security and Nuclear Non-Proliferation with the purpose of establishing a WMDFZ-ME
- The Forum seeks to support Arab effort on the international scene not only in the field of non-proliferation but also to what relates to regional security issues that are of interest to the region and to the globe. The consortium will provide decision makers in Arab countries with studies, proposal as well as suggesting feasible options to assist decisions and plan policies with a view of achieving common Arab interests
- The Forum welcomes joint cooperation with the League of Arab States in its efforts aiming to create a WMDFZME. To achieve this objective, the Forum will provide any required studies, analyses and support
- Establish a quad-lateral committee to coordinate, to follow-up and to plan Forum's activities and programs. The committee will meet on a rotational basis, its membership is renewed on a biannual basis. The quad-lateral committee currently consist of ECFA, ACSIS, INEGMA and ATF.

- Hold an annual meeting (or semi-annual meetings whenever needed) to Forum members to discuss emerging issues and important developments in the field of non-proliferation and establishing a WMDFZME. The annual meeting will be hosted by a Forum member, the host institute will be responsible for logistical arrangements and becomes a chairman of the Forum for a one year period
- The Arab Institute for Security Studies will chair the quad-lateral coordination committee
- The Arab Forum welcomes the membership of any Arab research institutes interested in security and non-proliferation issues
- The Arab Forum on Security and Nuclear Non-Proliferation stress on the importance of its engagement in the Helsinki meeting and the overall representation of civil society sector. The Forum encourages the facilitator to take into consideration the overall participation of civil society sector in the Helsinki meeting.
- The Arab Forum affirms the importance of coordinating and cooperating with international research centers and civil society organizations of similar interests.

Drafted in Amman (Jordan)
November 12th, 2012