

# MEEEA

NEWSLETTER

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## Letter from the MEEA Executive Secretary

**T**his is my first letter as executive secretary of the MEEA. I am really proud to have worked with very distinguished economists and Middle Eastern experts on the board of the MEEA over the years. The current Executive Board consisting of Serdar Sayan, Edward Sayre, and myself would like to take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude first, for the growing number of members of the MEEA who have entrusted us with this responsibility and without whom this organization would literally have been defunct. Second, to all former members of the board who have collectively taken the Association to higher grounds. I would like to thank them all for their dedication and contributions to the MEEA and I'm looking forward to working closely with the new and veteran members of the new board (Fatma Dogruel, Guzin Erlat, Nathalie Hilmi, Bassem Kamar, Mehmet Tosun, and Tarik Yousef).

In our 2010 ASSA meeting in Atlanta, our members found a great opportunity to present, discuss, and interact with each other. As in the past few years, we have complemented the declining number of sessions provided to us by the American Economic Association (currently only four slots) with post-conference sessions held at Georgia Tech University. This year the ASSA conference in Denver (6-9 Janu-

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### ANNOUNCING

#### MEEA TENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ARAB ACADEMY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

**Alexandria, Egypt**

**March 14-16, 2011**

The goal of the conference is to promote and stimulate the exchange of ideas in the field of economic research applied to the Middle East and North African (MENA) countries. The conference will cover all areas of economics with application to the MENA region, but its main theme will be MENA's Road to Recovery from Global Crises: Impact, Innovations, and Lessons for the Future. We look forward to seeing you in Alexandria in March 2011. Deadline for submission of abstracts is 30 October 2010. Abstract submission and details are available on the conference website <http://meca2011.aastmt.org/>. The deadline is quickly approaching, so apply soon. Abstracts will only be acceptable using the application form to be downloaded from the site. Contact [MEEA2011@aast.edu](mailto:MEEA2011@aast.edu) with inquiries.

## Letter

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ary) will be complemented by pre-conference sessions to be held at the University of Colorado. More details on the venue and final touches on the pre-conference program will be coming your way soon. Also, 2010 has seen our Ninth International Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, that was held June 24-26, 2010, in association with Istanbul Technical University, on their Maçka Campus. The keynote speaker of the conference was Professor Timur Kuran from Duke University who provided his intellectually stimulating speech on “Institutional Roots of Economic Underdevelopment in the Middle East”.

Currently, preparations are being made for our Tenth International Conference to be held on March 14-16, in Alexandria Egypt, in Association with the Arab Academy of Science, Technology, and Maritime. While the theme of the conference centers around “MENA’s Road to Recovery from Global Crises: Impact, Innovations, and Lessons for the Future”, abstracts submitted from different fields such as a) Macroeconomic Policies and Financial Markets; b) Economic and Human Development; c) International Trade and Economics of Globalization; d) Labor Markets and Industrial Relations; and e) Institutional Economics and Issues of Governance are accepted as long as they contain original research related to the MENA region or country specific cases. Also, in line with our objective to build research capacity in the MENA, contributions by PhD students are encouraged to foster advancement in economic research among young professionals. For that purpose, the organizing committee is providing limited fellowships to young scholars to assist with travel costs. Also, special student housing is provided. Some important dates to remember in order to participate in this conference along with other pertinent information about the venue, travel arrangements, and accommodations, can be downloaded from the conference web site at: <http://meca2011.aastmt.org/index.html>

I am truly looking forward to seeing you all in Denver this coming January and am really excited to have the opportunity to welcome you in Alexandria in March of 2011.

Hassan Y. Aly,  
Professor of Economics  
Ohio State University

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## IBN KHALDUN PRIZE

Reminder that submissions for the Ibn Khaldun Prize for the best paper on one or more Middle Eastern countries by a junior economist (no more than five years since receiving Ph.D.) must be received no later than **December 10, 2010**. The submissions should be sent electronically to Professor Jeffrey B. Nugent at [nugent@usc.edu](mailto:nugent@usc.edu). The entries will be evaluated by a three-person committee. Please visit <http://mecaweb.org/honors.htm> for further details.

## IUE-SSEM EUROCONFERENCE 2011, IZMIR, TURKEY, JUNE 27-30, 2011

The Society for the Study of Emerging Markets (SSEM) will hold its EuroConference 2011 during June 27-30, 2011 in Izmir, Turkey in cooperation with Izmir University of Economics. The conference theme is "crises and recovery in emerging markets." Extended abstract, or preferably, complete paper submission deadline is **January 31, 2011**. Please refer to the link below for potential research topics, invited speakers, and conference details.

<http://ekolider.ieu.edu.tr/eab/Euroconference2011/index.php>

## API 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “RECENT TRENDS IN FINANCING DEVELOPMENT,” BEIRUT, LEBANON, MARCH 21-23, 2011

The major objective of the Conference is to provide a forum for interaction between policy makers, researchers and interested parties to debate the issues identified under the various themes for financing development in developing countries in general, and in Arab countries in particular. Interested researchers, from the Arab countries and beyond, are invited to submit an electronic copy (Microsoft word) of a completed manuscript (in Arabic or English) on any of the Conference themes, or any relevant theme, not exceeding 25 single-spaced pages, to the Conference Coordinator on or before **31st October 2010**. Earlier submissions are strongly encouraged. All submissions will be acknowledged as soon as received.

Contact: Karim A. Darwiche, External Relations Manager, Arab Planning Institute—Kuwait.  
Email: [karim@api.org.kw](mailto:karim@api.org.kw); web page: [www.arab-api.org](http://www.arab-api.org)

## ERF 17TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE: POLITICS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ANTALYA, TURKEY, MARCH 20-22, 2011

The 17th Annual Conference provides a unique opportunity for researchers from the region to interact with one another and with international researchers. The theme of the plenary sessions this year is “Politics and Economic Development”. The themes of the parallel sessions are varied and broad to accommodate diverse research interests. More details can be found at [http://www.erf.org.eg/cms.php?id=conferences\\_details&conference\\_id=38](http://www.erf.org.eg/cms.php?id=conferences_details&conference_id=38)

*(Announcements continued on page 4)*

## Recent Journal Articles

As part of the information services to MEEA members, the newsletter publishes a selection of recent journal articles on the economic issues in the Middle East and North Africa. Articles are selected with the criteria of providing regional diversity. Priority is given to articles in journals that are more highly ranked according to ISI's impact factor and that are indexed by EconLit. Please email the newsletter editor if you wish to include your recent publications.

- Abu-Zaineh, Mohammad, Awad Mataria, Stephane Luchini, and Jean-Paul Moatti. 2009. "Equity in Health Care Finance in Palestine: The Triple Effects Revealed." *Journal of Health Economics* 28, no. 6: 1071-1080.
- Al Shamsi, Fatima S., Hassan Y. Aly, and Mohamed Y. El-Bassiouni. 2009. "Measuring and Explaining the Efficiencies of the United Arab Emirates Banking System." *Applied Economics* 41, no. 25-27: 3505-3519.
- Arndt, Channing, and Kenneth R. Simler. 2010. "Estimating Utility-Consistent Poverty Lines with Applications to Egypt and Mozambique." *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 58, no. 3: 449-474.
- Assaad, Ragui, Deborah Levison, and Nadia Zibani. 2010. "The Effect of Domestic Work on Girls' Schooling: Evidence from Egypt." *Feminist Economics* 16, no. 1: 79-128.
- Bahmani-Oskooee, Mohsen, and Magda Kandil. 2010. "Exchange Rate Fluctuations and Output in Oil-Producing Countries: The Case of Iran." *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade* 46, no. 3: 23-45.
- Ben-David, Dan. 2009. "Soaring Minds: The Flight of Israel's Economists." *Contemporary Economic Policy* 27, no. 3: 363-379.
- Berument, M. Hakan, Nildag Basak Ceylan, and Nukhet Dogan. 2010. "The Impact of Oil Price Shocks on the Economic Growth of Selected MENA Countries." *Energy Journal* 31, no. 1: 149-176.
- Cameron, Ken, and Oliver Schnusenberg. 2009. "Oil Prices, SUVs, and Iraq: An Investigation of Automobile Manufacturer Oil Price Sensitivity." *Energy Economics* 31, no. 3: 375-381.
- El-Araby Aly, Ashraf, and James F., Jr. Ragan. 2010. "Arab Immigrants in the United States: How and Why Do Returns to Education Vary by Country of Origin?" *Journal of Population Economics* 23, no. 2: 519-538.
- Ersel, Hasan, and Fatih Ozatay. 2009. "The EU or National Reform Program for Turkey: Does the Political Feasibility Depend on the EU's Absorption Capacity?" *Iktisat Isletme ve Finans* 24, no. 285: 9-31.
- Froese, Paul, and F. Carson Mencken. 2009. "A U.S. Holy War? The Effects of Religion on Iraq War Policy Attitudes." *Social Science Quarterly* 90, no. 1: 103-116.
- Gouider, Afrah Larnaout, and Mohamed Trabelsi. 2010. "Further Evidence on the Finance and Growth Volatility Nexus in Some MENA Countries, 1970-2006." *Middle East Business and Economic Review* 22, no. 1: 65-81.
- Hajj, Mandana, and Ugo Panizza. 2009. "Religion and Education Gender Gap: Are Muslims Different?" *Economics of Education Review* 28, no. 3: 337-344.
- Hammoudeh, Shawkat M., Yuan Yuan, and Michael McAleer. 2009. "Shock and Volatility Spillovers among Equity Sectors of the Gulf Arab Stock Markets." *Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance* 49, no. 3: 829-842.
- Harb, Nasri. 2009. "Oil Exports, Non-oil GDP, and Investment in the GCC Countries." *Review of Development Economics* 13, no. 4: 695-708.
- Kagan, Kobi, Alon Levkowitz, Asher Tishler, and Avi Weiss. 2009. "Evaluating Strategic Arms Limitation Agreements, with Applications to the Israeli-Syrian and the North versus South Korean Conflicts." *Defence and Peace Economics* 20, no. 2: 95-121.
- Moosa, Imad, and Sulaiman Al-Abduljader. 2010. "A Test of the News Model of Stock Price Determination in an Emerging Market: The Case of Kuwait." *Applied Financial Economics* 20, no. 4-6: 397-405.
- Muller, Christophe, and Sami Bibi. 2010. "Refining Targeting against Poverty Evidence from Tunisia." *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics* 72, no. 3: 381-410.
- Naufal, George S., and Ali Termos. 2009. "The Responsiveness of Remittances to Price of Oil: The Case of the GCC." *OPEC Energy Review* 33, no. 3-4: 184-197.
- Rauch, James E., and Scott Kostyshak. 2009. "The Three Arab Worlds." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 23, no. 3: 165-188.
- Rijkers, Bob, Caterina Ruggeri Laderchi, and Francis Teal. 2010. "Who Benefits from Promoting Small Enterprises? Some Empirical Evidence from Ethiopia." *World Development* 38, no. 4: 523-540.
- Roberts, Barbara M., and Abdulaziz Almahmood. 2009. "Source Country Characteristics and the Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment into Saudi Arabia." *World Economy* 32, no. 12: 1730-1746.
- Smyth, Russell, and Paresh Kumar Narayan. 2009. "A Panel Data Analysis of the Military Expenditure-External Debt Nexus: Evidence from Six Middle Eastern Countries." *Journal of Peace Research* 46, no. 2: 235-250.
- Tokatli, Nebahat, and Omur Kizilgun. 2010. "Coping with the Changing Rules of the Game in the Global Textiles and Apparel Industries: Evidence from Turkey and Morocco." *Journal of Economic Geography* 10, no. 2: 209-229.
- Tosun, Mehmet S., and Serdar Yilmaz. 2010. "Centralization, Decentralization and Conflict in the Middle East and North Africa." *Middle East Development Journal* 2, no. 1: 1-14.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### THE WORLD FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA, FLORENCE, ITALY, APRIL 6-9, 2011

The Twelfth Mediterranean Research Meeting will take place near Florence (Italy) on 6 - 9 April 2011. One of the workshops (workshop 8) will examine the impact of the current economic and financial crisis on economies, financial markets and economic policies in the Middle East and North Africa. The aim of this workshop is to study the impact of the crisis on trade, economic fluctuations, financial fragility, prospects for growth and social conditions, as well as on long term macroeconomic policies and developmental models in the MENA. More information on this workshop can be found at:

<http://www.eui.eu/DepartmentsAndCentres/RobertSchumanCentre/Research/InternationalTransnationalRelations/MediterraneanProgramme/MRM/Mrm2011.aspx>

### NEWSLETTER NEWS

The **MEEA Newsletter** has a new editor. The editor is now Mehmet Serkan Tosun at the University of Nevada, Reno. Please direct all correspondence to Mehmet S. Tosun, Department of Economics, Mail Stop 0030, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557. [tosun@unr.edu](mailto:tosun@unr.edu)

## Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Middle East Economic Association, please fill out this form and return it to the Treasurer. The membership fee is \$25 for faculty and other professionals, \$20 for students, and \$10 for all members residing in a MEEA country. Payments can now be made via check or credit card. Be sure to include credit card number and expiration date if paying by credit card.

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**The Middle East Economic Association**, a non-profit international organization, was formed in 1978 and is affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Middle East Studies Association. The main objective of MEEA is to foster scholarship and to establish lines of communication among specialists interested in the Political Economy of the Middle East. **Web:** [www.meeweb.org](http://www.meeweb.org).

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### NEWSLETTER

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Send us news about yourself, other organizations, forthcoming conferences and new publications. Address all communication to the editor

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