# GIFT-MENA News Flash
## March 2009

### 1. GIFT-MENA to be registered as an regional organization to be based in Beirut

- Following the decision of the general assembly to seek legal status for the network, the GIFT-MENA Secretariat explored several alternatives for incorporating GIFT-MENA as an autonomous organization and now has the possibility to register it as a regional organization based in Beirut. The process is expected to be finalized in the coming months. Such legal status will give our network administrative and financial autonomy as well as a legal framework for sustainability.

### 2. Projects/services currently on going

As per the GIFT-MENA action plan for 2009, steering committee members have paired for developing new programs and services to the benefit of member institutions. On going projects include:

- **The design of a quality charter for the sharing of training modules.** The charter is expected to facilitate the exchange of training modules using a set of standards and parameters to promote best practices. This product is currently being developed by the National Institute of Administration of Palestine and ADETEF.

- **The preparation of a "Regional Training Workshop on Developing Training Skills"** (to take place by end April) in collaboration with the Dubai School of Government.

- **The finalization of the French version e-learning module on Performance Budgeting** by the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Morocco, in partnership with the World Bank. This first version will be submitted at a later stage to peer-review.

- **Membership development**: Member institutions that did not ratify the GIFT-MENA convention and bylaws will soon be receiving a letter and membership form to be filled for officially confirming their interest in joining GIFT-MENA.

- **Fundraising**: GIFT-MENA Secretariat is currently developing a fundraising strategy for the network covering the period 2009-2010.

### 3. GIFT-MENA recommendations

The GIFT-MENA Secretariat encourages you take part to the following programs hosted by GIFT-MENA members:

- **Creating Sustainable Solution for Education Development**: This program is hosted by the Dubai School of Government on March 10 and 11, 2009 (brochure attached).

- **Leadership for the 21st century**: This program is organized by the Dubai School of Government between March 30 and April 2nd, 2009. The application deadline is April 12, 2009 (brochure attached).

- **The Summer School course on Managing for Integrity: Strategies and Approaches**, in Budapest, Hungary, from June 29 to July 8, 2009 (brochure attached). This course is jointly organized by the Central European University, TIRI and the Center for Policy Studies.

### 4. International venues to which GIFT-MENA members participated

- **Ms. Lamia Moubayed Bissat** (from the Basil Fuleihan Institute of Finance of Lebanon) participated to the conference on "International Cooperation in Public Administration" held on December 19, 2008, in France. On this occasion, Ms. Moubayed Bissat gave a talk on "Objectives and Tools for Networking Civil Service Schools and Institutes" and exposed the GIFT-MENA experience.

- **Ms. Sabine Hatem** (from the Basil Fuleihan Institute of Finance of Lebanon) will be representing Lebanon at the next steering committee meeting of the MEDAPAN network, to be held on March 20, in Marseille.

For sharing your news with network's members, kindly send by mail to the [GIFT-MENA Secretariat](mailto:gift-menasecretariat@giit.org) the information you wish to disclose and we will include it in our next GIFT-MENA Activity Report.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,
On behalf of the GIFT-MENA Secretariat
Sabine Hatem

For more information, please contact the GIFT-MENA Secretariat - IoF: 01-425 147/9 or contact@if.org.lb

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