

Activities – Regional Councils

Regional Council „Arab Countries“

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Regional Council meeting for the Arab Countries in Fujairah/UAE with Ibrahim Assiri, Mohamed Al-Afkham, Ali Mahdi Nouri, the DG ITI and Chen Zhongwen.



Activities of the Regional Council Arab Countries

ITI Arab Council Meeting in Fujairah

For the first time ever, a meeting bringing together all Arabic ITI Centres was held in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates on Tuesday February 23, 2016 at Le Meridien Al Aqah Hotel on the sidelines of the 1st Fujairah International Arts Festival. The session was chaired by H.E. Mohamed Saif Al Afkham, President of ITI Worldwide and Director of Fujairah International Arts Festival.

New Arabic Centres

The meeting addressed several issues such as introducing the newly joined Arab centres and suggesting a mechanism for activating inactive centres. Al Afkham started the session by welcoming the attendees and asking them to introduce themselves, affirming that such gatherings are essential for the success of ITI in the Arab World and hoping that this meeting will be held on the sidelines of theatre festivals organized in member Arab countries. After that, representatives introduced themselves and their centres, and talked about their achievements, current projects and future ambitions and visions. They spoke about the issues they face and discussed with the attendees how to overcome them.

Arab Regional Centre for ITI

It was also announced during the meeting that a new regional centre for ITI UNESCO is to be established to represent the Arab Countries and ensure Arab presence in international ITI events. This centre will

be in Fujairah and Ibrahim Assiri will be appointed as coordinator between all Arab ITI Centres.

Introducing ITI to New Members

ITI Director General Tobias Biancone spoke about ITI, its objectives, current and future projects and about their ambassadors and awards, hoping that soon there will be an Arab person among their ambassadors. Biancone expressed his appreciation for Fujairah and for the ITI President for inviting artists in Fujairah and the importance of Arab participation in ITI.

Arabic Newsletter

Georgette Gebara proposed that there be an Arabic newsletter for the Arab ITI Centres to publish news and information about the activities of centres. The proposal was met with approval from most attendees.

Attendees

The meeting was attended by Ali Mahdi Nouri, Secretary General of ITI, Aktina Stakathi and Zhongwen Chen from ITI Secretariat and Mike Van Graan. The Arab centres were represented by: Hessa Al Falasi (United Arab Emirates), Saleh Al Hamar (Kuwait), Shorok Mohamad (Yemen), Georgette Gebara (Lebanon), Dr. Nehad Selaiha (Egypt), Cheikh Akbaoui (Algeria), Said Amel (Morocco), Fadlala Ahmad (Sudan), Sawsan Darwaza (Jordan), Sami Al Zahrani (KSA), Asaad Fidha (Syria) and Ibrahim Assiri (on behalf of Mohammed Ghassan Shaashaa / Palestine).