Letter from the MEEA President

Dear MEEA Members, Friends and Community,

The year 2002 has turned out to be another one where some regions of Middle East are in war, strife, economic turmoil, uncertainty and poverty. It is very fitting that our 2nd summer session in University of Versailles (see the Call for Papers on page 8 of this newsletter) in France to be held on June 2003 is on conflict resolution in the MENA areas. I strongly urge you to participate to this conference and contribute to this vital and needed topic. I would like to thank the local organizer, Professor Jacques Charmes of University of Versailles for hosting MEEA’s summer session and Prof. Hassan Hakimian of City University, London for helping plan our summer sites.

Next year will mark the end of my term as President of MEEA. We will be holding elections in the summer of 2003 for the new Board and the new Executive Committee, all of whom will serve a three year term. I am going to be contacting our members for elections next fall. Due to problems we had with mail to and from the MENA region during September and October of 2001, a large majority of our overseas members could not vote in time for the present Board and the Executive Committee. To overcome this problem, I will ask the Board permission for emailed and faxed

Call for Papers

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA) to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Allied Social Science Associations in San Diego, California January 3-5, 2004

Please send a one-page abstract by March 31, 2003 to:
Jeffrey Nugent, Executive Secretary
Middle East Economic Association
Department of Economics
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253

Note: Abstracts should be accompanied with a program submission fee of $25 US as well as an annual membership fee for 2002 of $25 US for faculty and other professionals, $20 for students, and $10 for all members residing in a MENA country.
votes this year to speed up the process. You will be informed of the Board’s decision when you get your ballot forms.

On a separate note, I am very happy that Dr. Hamid Zangeneh, who provided MEEA with dedicated and faithful service as a Treasurer in the past, has accepted the position of the director of CHRAF, MEEA’s committee on human rights. We congratulate him and wish him success in this very important endeavor.

The fourth volume of Topics on Middle East and North African Economies, selected electronic proceedings of our last meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, has been published on the web. The table of contents of this volume is listed above. To access the articles on this volume as well as the previous three volumes, please access meeaweb.org and go to its online journal section. The electronic publication of our proceedings has been a success, by the citations the articles received and by the number of unsolicited publications I am now receiving. Topics only accepts selected proceedings of papers presented in MEEA meetings. I encourage you to submit your other articles to the newly established Review of Middle East Economics and Finance journal by our local chapter, Lebanese American University-Byblos. The editor is Prof. Wassim Shahin. The journal is published by Routledge Press. Information about the journal can be found at www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14753685.html.

I wish you all a very productive and healthy year. I also hope for peace, prosperity, democracy and dignity for the MENA region. Your research and input are crucial in reaching these goals. Thank you for being part of MEEA’s research community.

Mine Cinar
Department of Economics, Loyola University Chicago

President’s Letter (continued from page 1)
January 3, 2003

8:00 a.m.
Marriott Metro: Salon C & D

Political Economy and Growth in the Middle East (Poster Session)

* Presiding
Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California

Cyrus Bina, University of Minnesota, The 50th Anniversary of the Coup: Political Economy of Oil and Sovereignty in Iran (1951-1953)

Akbar Torbat, California State University, Origins of the U.S.-Iranian Economic Relations

Sofiane Ghali, Université de Tunis El Manar, Origins of the U.S.-Iranian Economic Relations, California State University, 1953

Economy of Oil and Sovereignty in Iran (1951-1953)

* Cyrus Bina, University of Minnesota, The 50th Anniversary of the Coup: Political Economy of Oil and Sovereignty in Iran (1951-1953)

* Akbar Torbat, California State University, Origins of the U.S.-Iranian Economic Relations

* Sofiane Ghali, Université de Tunis El Manar, Origins of the U.S.-Iranian Economic Relations, California State University, 1953

8:15 a.m.
Marriott Metro: Salon C & D

TFP and Economic Potential of the Tunisian Economy

Gülay Günlük Senesen, Istanbul University, and Ümit Senesen, Istanbul Technical University, Import Dependency of Production in Turkey: From 1970’s to 1990’s

*Nuray Güner, Seza Danışman Rhoades, Middle East Technical University, and Zeynep Önder, Bilkent University, Determinants of Market Reaction to Rights Offering Announcements: Evidence from an Emerging Market

Mohammed I. Al Madhoun and Farhad Analoui, Islamic University of Gaza and University of Bradford, Management and Development: The Training Program for Small and Micro Enterprises in Palestine

Serhan Ciftcioglu, Eastern Mediterranean University, The Choice between Fixed and Flexible Rates in the Presence of Foreign Shocks

* * *

10:15 a.m.
Marriott Metro: London II

Poverty and Inequality in the Middle East

* Presiding
Shah M. Mehrabi, Montgomery College

Mona Said, International Monetary Fund, and Tarik M. Yousef, Georgetown University, Demography, Structural Reforms and Wage Inequality in Egypt, 1988-1998 Gender

Yusuf Ziya Özean, The Middle East Technical University, and Kivileçim Metin Özean, Bilkent University, Measuring Poverty and Inequality in Turkey

Zuzana Brixiova, Edward Gemayel, and Mona Said, International Monetary Fund, Fiscal Decentralization and Poverty Alleviation in Sudan

Camran M. Dadkhah, Northeastern University, Income Distribution and Economic Growth in Iran

Djavad Salehi Isfahani, and Reza Mohemkar Kheirandish, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Dynamics of Poverty in Iran

George Slotsve, Northern Illinois University, Egyptian Poverty

Discussants

Heba Nassar, Cairo University

Kitty Kay Chan, US Department of Agriculture

Nagla E. Rizk, American University in Cairo

Sumon Bhaumik, London Business School

* * *

2:30 p.m.
Marriott Metro: London II

Female Labor Participation

* Presiding
Fatemeh E. Moghadam, Hofstra University

Melanie Arntz, University of Bonn, and Meltem Dayioglu Tayfur, Middle Eastern Technical University, The Role of Local Demand Side Factors in Determining Female Participation in Non Governmental Wage Employment

Sami Zouari, University of Sfax, and Ragui Assaad, University of Minnesota, Female Labor Force Participation, Fertility and the Timing of Marriage in Morocco

Fatma El Hamidi, University of Pittsburgh, Female Labour Supply of Egyptian Married Women when Self Employment is an Option Participation and Hours of Work

Insad Tunali, Koç University, and Cem Baslevet, Bilgi University, Married Women’s Participation Choices and Productivity Differentials: Evidence from Turkey

Jennifer Olmsted, Occidental College, Gender, Culture, Demography and Employment in the MENA Region

Discussants

Hassan Aly, Ohio State University

Parvin Alizadeh, Denison University

Florence Eid, American University Beirut

MEEA Newsletter Vol. 13 No. 2 3
January 4, 2003

8:00 a.m.
Marriott Metro: Tokyo

Goods and Labor Flows in the Middle East

Presiding

Hadi Esfahani, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Amelie Constant and Yochanan Shachmurove, University of Pennsylvania Middle Eastern Immigrants in Germany

Güzin Erłat, and Haluk Erłat, Middle East Technical University, Intra Industry Trade and Labour Market Adjustment in Turkey

Ozay Methmet, Carleton University, and Mehmet Tahirıolu, Eastern Mediterranean University, Sustainability of Microstates: Cluster Theory and Comparative Advantage Revisited an Application to Northern Cyprus

Denise Eby Konan, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa, Alternative Paths to Prosperity: Economic Integration among Arab Countries

Edward Sayre, Agnes Scott College, The Labor Market Impact of Palestinian Return Migration

Leila Farsakh, London School of Oriental and African Studies, Palestinian Employment in Israeli Settlements in the West Bank: Causes and Implications

Hassan Hakimian, City University, London Water Scarcity and Food Imports in the MENA Region: An Empirical Examination of the ‘Virtual Water’ Hypothesis

Discussants

Alpay Filiztekin, Sabancı University
Hans Lofgren, International Food Policy Research Institute
Mussaddeq Chowdhury, University of Redlands
Sheikh Shannahaz, University of Southern California

10:15 a.m.
Marriott Metro: Tokyo

Capital Flows and Markets in the Middle East

Presiding

E. Mine Cinar, Loyola University Chicago

Asim Erdilek, Case Western Reserve University, Inward and Outward Foreign Direct Investment in Turkey

Shawkat Hammoudeh, Drexel University Linkages and Volatility Transmission Between Oil Markets and Stock Markets of the Six GCC Oil Exporting Countries

M. Kabir Hassan, University of New Orleans Return Volatility, Predictability and Dynamic Relationships in the OIC Stock Markets


Jose Martinez Vázquez, and Wasseem Mina, Georgia State University, Rule of Law, Contract Enforcement, and the Level and Maturity of International Lending: Evidence from MENA

Discussants

Yakup Kepenek, Middle East Technical University
Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California
Sripad Motiram, University of California, Berkeley
W. Bruce Wydick, University of San Francisco

2:30 p.m.
Marriott Metro: Tokyo

Policy Roundtable on the Middle East: Where is MENA Headed?

Presiding

Tarik M. Yousef, Georgetown University

Panelists:

Vahan Zonayan, President, Petroleum Finance Company
George Abed, Director, Middle Eastern Department, IMF
Jean Louis Sarbib, VP, Middle East and North Africa Region, World Bank

MEEA Business Meeting
January 3rd, 2003
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Marriott Metro: London II

Comming Soon- early 2003

Food, Agriculture and Economic Policy in the Middle East
Volume 5 of Research in Middle East Economics
Published by JAI Press/ Elsevier
Ed. by Hans Lofgren

Housing Instructions

To make reservations contact WCTC Hotel Reservation Office. 108 Wilmot Road, Ste. 400, Deerfield, IL 60015

Make your reservations as soon as possible-online, or phone 800.492.7886 (9:00 am-8:00 pm EST, M-F), International call 847.940.4211. Reservations are processed on a first received basis.

Full reservation information is available at the AEA website www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/hotl.htm

Hotels

Marriott at Metro Center
775 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Capital Hilton
1001 16th Street, NW
Washington DC 20036

Grand Hyatt Washington
1000 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001

JW Marriott
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Embassy Suites Downtown
1250 22nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
January 5, 2003

8:30 a.m.
Marriott Metro: Tokyo

Exchange Rates, Money and Industry Structure in the Middle East

Presiding
Kivilcim Metin Ozcan, Bilkent University

Ida A. Mirzaie, John Carroll University and Magda Kandil, International Monetary Fund Comparative Analysis of Exchange Rate Fluctuation and Aggregate Economic Activity: Theory and Evidence from Middle Eastern Countries

Rania A. Al Mashat, International Monetary Fund, Financial Innovation and Alternative Exchange Rate Arrangements in MENA: An Empirical Estimation of Demand for Money

Alpay Filiztekin, Öner Gunçavdi, Benan Zeki Orbay, Sabanci University, Capacity Choice, Exchange Rates and Industry Structure

Gökhan Çapoğlu, Bilkent University Exchange Rate Based Stabilization Program in Turkey: Stabilizing or Destabilizing?

Yakup Kepenek, Middle East Technical University State and the Private Industrial Capital The Turkish Case

Discussants
Kamran Dadkhah, Northeastern University Haluk Erlat, Middle Eastern Technical University
Haluk Erlat, Middle Eastern Technical University Julia Devlin, World Bank

New Members 2002

Mohammed Al-Madhoun, University of Bradford
Kerim Peren Arin, Louisiana State University
Arie Arnon, Ben Gurion University
Ata Assaf, University of Windsor
Fuad Awad, Lebanese American University
Suman Bhaumik, London Business School
Gokhan Capoglu, Bilkent University
Serhan Ciftcioglu, Eastern Mediterranean University

Meltem Dayioglu-Tayfur, Middle Eastern Technical University
Ghassan Dibeh, Lebanese American University
Salpie Djoudourian, Lebanese American University
Waleed El-Ansary, George Washington University
Fatma El-Hamidi, University of Pittsburgh
Asim Erdilek, Case Western Reserve University
Alpay Filiztekin, Sabanci University
Edward R. Gemayel, International Monetary Fund

Sofiane Ghali, Université de Tunis El Manar
Eduardo L. Gimenez, Universidade de Vigo
Mohammad Kabir Hassan, University of New Orleans
Nader Kabbani, Lebanese American University
Yakup Kepenek, Middle East Technical University

Denise Eby Konan, University of Hawai’i Manoa
Wasseen Mina, Georgia State University
Iida Mirzaie, John Carroll University
Reza Mohemkar-Kheirani, Virginia Polytechnic and State University
Ishaq M. Nadiri, New York University
Deniz Ozcan, University of London

Elias Raad, Lebanese American University
George Slotsve, Northern Illinois University
Mehmet Tahiroglu, Eastern Mediterranean University
Akbar Esfahani Torbat, California State University
Yochanan Shachmurove, University of Pennsylvania
Salah A. Yousif, Alabama A&M University
Barka Zine, University of Tlemcen
Sam Zouari, University of Sfax

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

All participants in MEEA sessions in Washington D.C. must be sure that they are registered with the ASSA. Registration can be done on-line by the website available for the American Economic Association that can be done by doing a Google Search for this association and then clicking on the website given. Within that site check “annual meeting”

The MEEA Board meeting this year will be held 6-8 PM in the Potomac Room of the Marriott Metro Hotel on Thursday evening January 2. Please note that this is the evening before the conference formally opens.

The MEEA Business Meeting will be held on Friday evening January 3, 5:30-7PM in London II Room of the Marriott Metro.

Everyone please try to attend the Special Policy Roundtable on the Middle East 2:30-4:30 PM in the Tokyo Room of the Marriott Metro Hotel Saturday January 4. Also, please try to attend as many as possible of the MEEA sessions (on pages 3-5 in this newsletter) and attend our business meeting on Saturday evening January 3rd. Please feel free to bring students, colleagues and friends. Please check our website: http://www.meeaweb.org/ for the latest information about MEEA activities and announcements.

Jeffrey B. Nugent
Department of Economics
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253
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 three years after receiving Ph.D.) must be received no later than December 5, 2002 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253, USA. The entries will be evaluated by a three person committee.

NEW DIRECTOR OF MEEA-CHRAF

MEEA’s Committee on Human Rights and Academic Freedom (CHRAF) monitors infringements of human rights and academic freedom of economists in the Middle East.

Note from new Director

I am very pleased to be a part of CHRAF. It is indeed an honor. Success of this organ of MEEA depends on your belief in the idea that all human beings deserve to be free regardless of race, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. We are living in a rapidly evolving world and each and every one of us could contribute to make it as safe, secure, and free for all. The success and failure of CHRAF depends on your cooperation and assistance. I would like you to be involved and spread the word around all economics departments throughout the Middle East about the continuing existence and willingness of this organization to support and defend individual rights by all peaceful means available to us. Please send me list of economic faculty (names, affiliations, addresses, telephone numbers, and emails addresses) in your department so I can send everyone notes about the organization and new developments. Thanks and with best wishes Hamid Zangeneh.

For information, please contact Director of CHRAF, Hamid Zangeneh, Dept of Economics, Widener University, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013 USA, email Hamid.Zangeneh@widener.edu. or Co-Chairs of MEEA-CHRAF, Abbas Alnasrawi or Sohrab Behdad. Professor Alnasrawi may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, USA, email alnasra@moose.uvm.edu Professor Behdad is at the Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, OH, 43023 US, email behdad@denison.edu.

WESTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION JULY 2003

Jeff Nugent will be organizing sessions for the 2003 meeting of the Western Economic Association, International. The meetings will take place July 11-15 2003 in Denver, Colorado. Anyone interested in a Middle East or Development (broadly defined) related topic who is willing both to present a paper and serve as a discussant on another paper should contact Jeff with a title and complete address and email by January 15, 2003. Those not currently members of WEAI will need to pay the registration fees of the WEAI which are generally over $150 dollars.

NEW JOURNAL IN 2003

REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Routledge, Taylor & Francis are proud to announce the release of a new journal for 2003, Review of Middle East Economics and Finance, edited by Wassim Shahin from the Lebanese American University.

Review of Middle East Economics and Finance aims at addressing applied original research in the fields of economics and finance pertaining to the Middle East and North Africa region including Turkey and Iran. Topic areas, although not exhaustive, encompass: Monetary and fiscal policies; Labor and welfare economics; International trade and finance; Banking; Financial markets and institutions; Financial instability and crisis; Investment and portfolio analysis. Strong emphasis is placed on empirically based papers. The Journal includes a review section of books dealing with the above topics.

Manuscripts to be considered for publication should be submitted to: Wassim Shahin, Editor, MEEF, School of Business, Lebanese American University, PO Box 36, Byblos, Lebanon.

Electronic submissions in a format other than pdf are encouraged and preferred at meef@lau.edu.lb

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN GENDER, WORK AND FAMILY

The Economic Research Forum (ERF) and The University of Minnesota (UM) are delighted to announce a third round of six-month graduate fellowship at UM. The ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship program is affiliated with the UM Population Center. Eligible candidates will work with faculty members from the University’s Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Department of Applied Economics and the Industrial Relations and Human Resource Center of the Carlson School of Management on research related to gender, work and family in the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey (ERF region). The fellowship is designed to support researchers committed to a multidisciplinary approach to gender, work and family issues whose research is centered on the analysis of household surveys. Enrollment date for the third round of the ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship program will be August, 2003-January 2004. The application deadline for the second round will be in February 15th, 2003. Further information can be found at www.erf.org.eg and applications should be sent to: ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship Secretariat, Azza El-Shinnawy, Program Officer, Economic Research Forum For Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey, 7 Boulos Hanna st. Dokki, Cairo, Egypt, Tel: (202) 748 5553-337 0810, Fax: (202) 761 6042, Email: ashinnawy@erf.org.eg.

REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS AND FINANCE


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New and Recent Titles

As part of the information services to MEEA members, the Newsletter will announce new titles on the political economy of the Middle East. We renew our request to publishers to send us copies of new titles on the political economy of the Middle East.


The Middle East Economic Association (MEEA) is organising its second European conference in Versailles University 2-3 June 2003. This international Conference is a joint venture with the Centre of Economics and Ethics for environment and Development of the University of Versailles.

The theme of the conference is the economics of conflicts and co-operation in the Middle East and North Africa region. The aim is to provide an opportunity for addressing MENA's economic challenges in a global setting characterised by new forms of co-operation and threats of war, which are likely to influence the future direction of the region’s economies.

Papers that address the theme of the conference are solicited. Abstracts should be submitted by 31 January 2003. Decisions for inclusion in the conference will be made by the end of March. Full papers should be submitted by 20 May 2003. Proposals for complete sessions (three to four papers each, with discussants) are also invited. Organisers of proposed sessions should submit abstracts of all papers by 31 December 2002.

Please submit abstracts by mail, fax, or e-mail as word attachment to:

Jacques Charmes, Conference Chair
Centre of Economics and Ethics for Environment and Development (C3ED), University of Versailles
47 boulevard Vauban
78047 GUYANCOURT Cedex
FRANCE

Email: Jacques.Charmes@c3ed.uvsq.fr; Fax: +33 1 39 53 00; Tel: +33 1 39 25 53 75

CALL FOR PAPERS
MEEA-UNIVERSITY OF VERSAILLES
JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, JUNE 2003

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.meeaweb.org

**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 MENA country.

**Name:**

**Rank & Affiliation:**

**Professional Address:**

**Telephone:**

**Fax**

**Email**

Send to: Bulent Uyar
Treasurer, Middle East Economic Association
College of Business Administration
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0129

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NEWSLETTER
Vol. 13 No. 2, Fall 2002

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

Edward Sayre
Dept. of Economics
Agnes Scott College
Decatur, GA 30030
esayre@agnesscott.edu