



THELEBANESEREPUBLIC



UNITEDNATIONSECONOMIC  
ANDSOCIALCOMMISSIONFOR  
WESTERNASIA(ESCWA)



WORLDINTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTYORGANIZATION

## **WIPO-ESCWAARABREGIONAL CONFERENCEONINTE LLECTUAL PROPERTYANDELECTRO NICCOMMERCE**

organizedby  
theWorldIntellectualPropertyOrganization(WIPO)  
and  
theUnitedNationsEconomicandSocialCommissionforWesternAsia(ESCWA)

incooperationwith  
theMinistryofEconomyandTrade

**Beirut,May7 and8,2003**

PROGRAM

*preparedbytheInternationalBureauofWIPO*

Wednesday, May 7, 2003

9.00–10.00 Registration

10.00–10.30 OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome addresses by:

His Excellency Mr. Marwan Hamade, Minister for Economy and Trade, Beirut

Mrs. Mervat Tallawy, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut

Mr. Sherif Saadallah, Director, Cooperation for Development Bureau for Arab Countries, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00–12.30 Global Electronic Commerce Trends

*Theme: To present a high-level statistical overview of e-commerce trends in recent years and across the region of the world. Issues to be addressed include number of online users, Internet penetration in different regions, costs of Internet connection, changing demographics and language use online, including financial and banking indicators, etc.*

Invited Speakers:

Mr. Angel Gonzalez Sanz, Economic Affairs Officer, Electronic Commerce Branch, SITE Division, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva

Mr. Aly Harakeh, Public Relations and Community Affairs Manager, Microsoft – Eastern Mediterranean Region, Beirut

Wednesday, May 7, 2003 (cont'd)

12.30–14.00            The Internet in the Arab Region

*Theme: After a general introduction on the development of the Internet in the Arab region, a number of regional e-commerce success stories are presented.*

Invited speakers:

Mr. Hazem Malhas, Chief Executive Officer, AREGON, Amman

Mr. Angel Gonzalez -Sanz

Mr. Riad Bahsoun, General Manager, Telecommunication  
Information Technology, Beirut

14.00–16.00            Lunch

16.00–17.45            Intellectual Property on the Internet: Trademarks and Domain Names

*Theme: A series of presentations on developments on the Internet with implications for the intellectual property system, including use of trademarks online and the domain name system, including at country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) level.*

Invited speakers:

Ms. Lucinda Jones, Senior Legal Officer, Copyright, Electronic  
Commerce, Technology and Management Division, WIPO

Mr. Nabil Bukhalid, Administrator of ccTLD.lb, American University  
of Beirut

Mr. Riad Bahsoun

Thursday, May 8, 2003

9.30–11.00 Intellectual Property on the Internet: Copyright and Related Rights

*Theme: A series of presentations on the opportunities and challenges of the Internet for the intellectual property system, including latest developments in the area concerned, such as digital rights management and exceptions/limitations.*

Invited speakers:

Dr. Mihály Ficsor, Director, Center for Information Technology and Intellectual Property (CITIP), Budapest

Dr. Alain Strowel, Covington & Burling, Brussels

Ms. Lucinda Jones

11.00–12.30 Security and Privacy on the Internet

*Theme: Presentations on privacy and security issues in connection with the Internet, focusing on questions raised in the private sector, as well as regulatory developments in this area.*

Invited speakers:

Mr. Karim Kalaawi, Technical Specialist, Microsoft – Eastern Mediterranean Region, Beirut

Dr. Alain Strowel

Mr. Hazem Malhas

12.30–14.30 Lunch

14.30–16.00 Protection of Databases

*Theme: Presentations on the importance of database protection in the digital environment, as well as on the legal framework in the European Union and at the international level.*

Invited speakers:

Dr. Mihály Ficsor

Dr. Alain Strowel

Thursday, May 8, 2003 (cont'd)

16.00–17.30            RoundTableDiscussion

*Theme: Moderated discussion involving all panelists and audience members, on legal issues raised by intellectual property, electronic commerce and the Internet.*

Moderator:        Mr. Sherif Saadallah

17.30–18.00            CLOSING CEREMONY

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