

“The role of Civil society in the intercultural dialogue in Egypt”

Meeting development and strengthening of the ALF Egyptian Network

Date: 9th & 10th October - Location: Cairo

CALL FOR NON-EGYPTIANS ORGANISATIONS Representing ALF Heads of Networks and ALF Members

In the framework of "Dawrak-Citizens for Dialogue" programme, which is taking place over the period 2013-2014, the Anna Lindh Foundation wishes to arrange an Empowerment meeting in collaboration with the Egyptian Head of network, for the development and strengthening of the network of Egypt on *“the role of Civil society in intercultural dialogue in Egypt”*.

The meeting comes as one of the series of Arab network empowerment meetings, which is aiming at strengthening Arab networks and to explore the challenges of Arab civil societies during the transitional phase after the historical changes in the region and in particular through the establishment of joint project ideas and effective partnerships, This meeting will also be an opportunity to have a meeting of members of the network.

In the current context the Secretariat has decided to open this meeting to 10 non-Egyptians participants representing ALF Heads of Networks and members interested to work and develop activities with Egypt. **Candidates should send their applications on the form attached as soon as possible and before the 14th September giving clear motivations why they would like to take part as well as concrete ideas of projects they would like to develop with Egyptian civil society and members of the Egyptian network.**

Applications should be sent to the 3 following email addresses corinne.grassi@bibalex.org, dimitrios.cavouras@bibalex.org and Hamza.BenMehrez@bibalex.org.

1. BACKGROUND: THE "DAWRAC-CITIZENS FOR DIALOGUE"

"Dawrak - Citizens for Dialogue" is a program launched by the Anna Lindh Foundation and funded by the European Union in order to help organisations and members of civil society to develop skills to strengthen intercultural dialogue in Arab countries and develop tools for participation and advocacy, especially for youth and women.

The programme brings together members of civil society to offer them the opportunity to share and expand their network. It also allows you to meet representatives of local institutions, national and international organisations to promote a culture of dialogue and active participation in the public debate.

"Dawrak - Citizens for Dialogue" will be held during the period 2013-2014 in partnership with the network of the Anna Lindh Foundation and the governments of the countries involved. The program contains five components:

- The implementation of a programme for capacity building
- The launch of Citizen Exchange

- The creation of spaces for dialogue and debate
- The empowerment of the Anna Lindh Foundation Networks
- The organisation of a regional convention

2. OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this meeting is to allow members of the Egyptian network to exchange point of views and experience on “*The role of Civil society in the intercultural dialogue in Egypt*”, and to discuss about their needs and expectations of the other networks of the ALF and the Secretariat to better understand and share their experiences.

The meeting is open to organisations that are not members of the civil society network and will provide an opportunity to showcase the work of the ALF and the Egyptian network in order to adhere to new structures and new partnerships.

The participation of some members from other ALF networks will be an opportunity to share practices from previous similar experiences and develop common projects with Egyptian civil society.

Moreover, the presence of national / international institutions and potential donors will allow network members to receive advice on setting up projects.

3. EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected outcomes of the meeting are:

- Identifying the needs and expectations of members of the Egyptian National Network
- Strengthening the Egyptian network synergies among members
- Developing the network on the tools and methods to be used for the dialogue role
- Exchanging with institutions and donors, with other ALF networks for advice to diversify funding and capacity building programmes, to develop partnerships
- Encouraging exchange of good practices with other ALF networks, especially South-South exchanges with other ALF Arab networks

4. PROFILES OF PARTICIPANTS

The number of participants will be **up to 60 participants in total**, as follows:

- ✓ 40/50 members of the Egyptian network, only (One) representative per organisation
- ✓ 5 Egyptian organisations that are not yet members of the ALF Network
- ✓ 10 representative from other Euromed countries (ALF Heads of Network or Networks' members) who will demonstrate their will to work with Egyptian civil society and can propose concrete ideas of projects to be developed.
- ✓ Representatives of NGOs, institutions and donors present in Egypt, as well as several officials should also take part in the meeting.

This programme is financed by the European Union

