



**EUROMED Ministerial Conference on the Information Society**  
*“Building an Enabling Environment for the EUROMED Information Society”*

**Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza, Plaza Ballroom**

**Cairo, Egypt 26-27 February 2008**

**Program and Agenda**

**Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 09:00 – 10:00 Registration for Delegations at Conference Hotel  
Four Seasons, Garden City
- 10:00 – 12:00 Meeting of Senior Officials  
Preparation for Ministerial and Review of Draft  
Declaration
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch at Aqua Restaurant, Four Seasons Hotel
- 13:30 – 18:00 VIP Tour of Cairo ICT 2008 Exhibition at Cairo International  
Conference Center, Nasr City, Cairo
- 20:00 – 22:00 Official Dinner for Ministers and Delegations at Farhaty  
ballroom, Grand Hyatt Hotel.

**Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**

- 09:30 – 10:30 Opening Session
- Dr. Tarek Kamel, Minister of Communications and  
Information Technology, Egypt
- Video message from Mrs. Viviane Reding, Commissioner  
for Information Society and Media, European  
Commission.
- Ms. Mojca Kucler Dolinar, Minister of Higher Education,  
Science and Technology, Slovenia
- Mr. Peter Zangl, Deputy Director-General, Information  
Society and Media Directorate General, European  
Commission



10:30 – 12:00

**Ministerial Roundtable 1:**  
**The Future of the EUROMED Information Society: Setting the Vision**

Chair: Mr. Paavo Varynen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Finland

Moderator: Dr. Imad Al Sabouni, Minister of Communications & Technology, Syria

This session addresses the changing dynamics of the EUROMED Information Society in light of recent technological and business realities related to convergence, creativity and cyber security and the policy and regulatory challenges they pose. Ministers will present their views on issues such as the enabling environment for FDI in the EUROMED region, with investments flowing both from north to south and south to north. Ministers will also discuss the scarcity of skilled ICT work force and the socio-economic impact of 'Smart Sourcing' in the EUROMED region.

12:00 – 12:15

Group Photo for Ministers and Heads of Delegations

12:15 – 13:30

Working Lunch for Ministers and Delegations at Four Seasons Hotel, Plaza Room

Presentation by Dr. Khaled Ismail, CEO Sysd Soft, Egypt, as the representative of business community, titled: "The increasing value of individual innovation in the global economy" and;

Presentation by Mr. Hubert Bouchet, Member of the Economic and Social Committee and of the French Data Protection Authority, France, as the representative of civil society, on "The contemporary horizons of the Information Society"

13:30 – 15:00

**Ministerial Roundtable 2:**  
**Future EUROMED Cooperation Scheme**

Chair: Mr. Basem Rousan, Minister of Information and Communications Technology, Jordan

Moderator: Mr. Mariano Gago, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal (TBC)

This session highlights mechanisms for cooperation in the EUROMED region in regulatory issues, connectivity, research and ICT for development, including multi-lingual e-content, e-learning and e-government. Recommendations for improving cooperation and information sharing will be made to be followed up by the EUROMED Working Party on the Information Society.

15:00 – 15:30

Presentation of the Final Declaration of the Conference and Closing Remarks



15:45 – 16:15

Press Conference

16:15 – 17:00

Transfer to the Smart Village, Cairo/Alex Desert Road

17:00 – 19:00

Smart Village Tour

19:30 – 21:00

Dinner at Mena House Oberoi Hotel, Pyramids

21:30 – 22:30

Special Sound and Light Show at the Pyramids (English)