

8) Linkage with the Islam Centennial Fourteen Committee, which shares the goals of furthering understanding through the use of various media, including films, art and museum exhibits, and community events.

NEWS OF OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND NEW JOURNALS

Editorial Note: The reports of AMIDEAST, APPME and the Society for Coptic Archaeology at Cairo, as received, were significantly fuller. Due to new and stringent restrictions on space, these unfortunately had to be much reduced in length. Any errors or misleading statements they may contain are, therefore, the editor's responsibility.

America-Mideast Educational & Training Services (AMIDEAST)

Founded in 1951 as American Friends of the Middle East (AFME), AMIDEAST has contributed nearly 30 years of non-profit service to educational and cultural exchanges and increased mutual understanding between the U.S. and the countries of the Islamic Middle East and North Africa. Over the past 20 years AMIDEAST has focused primarily on facilitating the most beneficial and economical use of American post-secondary level education and expertise by Middle Eastern and North African individuals and institutions, for personal and national development purposes. More recently, its Board of Directors and over 80 staff members have designated in-regional education for development as a priority for the 1980s.

Educational Services: AMIDEAST's Washington, D.C. headquarters and its network of eight field offices provide counseling, placement orientation and supervision services to Middle Eastern students interested or engaged in U.S. study programs. It also offers consultation and information services to Middle Eastern and North African government ministries, private corporations and educational institutions. AMIDEAST has also assisted various Ministries of Education in implementing their U.S.-based student scholarship programs, as well as supervising scholarships offered by corporations, philanthropic individuals, and USAID graduate scholarships available to Egypt. Field offices offer a number of free counseling and information services to students wishing to ascertain if U.S. study is a viable option for them. A special service of AMIDEAST, since the early '60s, has been its annual Scholarship Search on behalf of outstanding but needy students, at no cost to the applicant. Regrettably, this service has been temporarily discontinued until funding can be obtained.

Programming and Facilitative Services: In addition to formal higher education program counseling and administration, AMIDEAST has arranged short-term professional study tours of the U.S. for Middle Eastern individuals and groups, and for U.S. visitors to the Middle East and North Africa.

AMIDEAST field offices have also facilitated the work of other cultural and educational exchange groups in the Middle East and North Africa by assisting in the interviewing, selection and orientation of participants in Experiment in International Living, American Field Service, Bi-National Commissions, and university exchange programs. A unique program of language teacher exchanges, commended by President Carter, has been supported by the Tunis office, in which Tunisian French teachers are exchanged with American schools in Louisiana and other traditionally French-speaking areas.

Information Services: In support of its educational services, and of cultural exchange generally, AMIDEAST headquarters and field of-

fices offer a range of information services to both Middle Easterners and to Americans. Information services include publications, public information, institutional outreach, and maintenance of a resource center. Currently its regular publications include: a quarterly *AMIDEAST Report* (\$15/year), Institutional Reports and Profiles series, and Occasional Papers. AMIDEAST also contributes the Middle East education section to an IIE quarterly publication, *World Higher Education Communique*.

AMIDEAST also produces materials to supplement field office activities in the region. A recent cooperative effort with Actualities, Inc. produced a 1979-80 edition of its perennial volume, *Planning for Study in the U.S.A.*, entitled, *Guide to American Colleges and Universities: Middle East Edition*.

Another aspect of AMIDEAST's public information and institutional outreach activities is its staff involvement in conferences, workshops and programs as co-sponsors, resource persons and consultants. More recently, it obtained funding for the development and three pilot implementations of a mobile, modular, multimedia program to introduce American campus and community groups to various aspects of Middle Eastern/North African students' educational and cultural backgrounds.

While AMIDEAST has always maintained close and mutually supportive relationships with the wide range of U.S. post-secondary and language institutions, a special liaison is established with its institutional members. Member institutions receive all of our publications and reports, and can avail themselves of a variety of other services, including student interviews and credentials evaluations, assistance in arranging study abroad or exchange programs with Middle Eastern institutions, and general information and consulting services according to their specific needs.

Development Services: As the expanse of education and training increases, along with pressing Middle Eastern demands for skilled manpower to meet national development goals, in-regional educational development at all levels has been identified as a priority by responsible Middle Eastern leaders.

Human Resource and Development Project/USAID: After preparing and submitting a USAID-funded Educational Sector Survey assessing the educational facilities available to residents and refugees in the West Bank/Gaza Strip in 1979, AMIDEAST continues work on its West Bank project, also USAID-funded, which involves three types of human resource development assistance: an undergraduate scholarship program, a faculty development program, and a participant training program providing short-term training in the U.S. and regionally to persons engaged in community development projects. Our East Jerusalem field office continues its research and evaluation of the educational sector of the West Bank and Gaza.

Moroccan Women in Development: In the fall of 1979 AMIDEAST was awarded a USAID contract to implement commercial and industrial job training for women in Morocco.

AMIDEAST continues to plan development activities and to respond to requests for development assistance, and looks forward to contributing to Middle Eastern/North African development in the 1980s, in partnership with both indigenous and U.S.-based development assistance organizations. For further information, contact: Katherine J. Sullivan, Assistant Director, AMIDEAST Information & Development Services.