



The Lebanese International Business Council (**LIBC**) was established in 1999 as a non-profit organization that aims to bring together Lebanese business people around the globe by creating a platform for business opportunities, promoting Lebanese industries and encouraging trade. **LIBC** also provides Lebanese communities abroad with a united voice, encouraging them to influence and participate in business, political and social decisions in their host countries.

OUR MISSION

“To promote the economic and financial development of Lebanon by encouraging investment in various profitable projects while bringing together Lebanese business people around the globe.”

The creation of **LIBC** is a natural response to the increasing need for the Lebanese diaspora to work together and become a major economic force in today’s society, whether in their country of origin or in their adopted homelands. In addition to catering for businesspeople, **LIBC** will also invite Lebanese doctors, journalists, intellectuals and other prominent individuals worldwide to be part of its global network. The council strongly encourages and believes in a diverse membership that represents a variety of backgrounds, which will transcend the boundaries of various nationalities, divisive politics and sectarianism.

An International Board of Directors

Representing the best of the Lebanese business world, the Board of Directors includes the Executive Committee and selected coordinators that are appointed for a specific country or region. The latter are considered Lebanon’s “business ambassadors” who can assist members abroad and promote trade between Lebanon and international markets.

Specialized Regional Committees

The **LIBC** works with its various representative committees situated across 30 different countries and regions in Europe, Africa, the Americas and Australia. These committees are made up of specialized individuals who work within a specific field, such as Economy and Trade, Finance, Industry and IT among others. Their task is to study the needs and opportunities of their respective fields in local markets and in Lebanon. They provide valuable assistance to the Board of Directors and to the members.

A Multi-Faceted Strategy

LIBC believes that the Lebanese have the ability and the responsibility to create an economic force that will play a momentous financial and political role in today’s global marketplace. The council aims on paving the way for the Lebanese, wherever they may be, to position themselves as a powerful economic and financial community in the international business world. Already, **LIBC** has set up many initiatives to realize its goals, such as developing an interactive website and hosting highly successful conferences that will link the Lebanese worldwide.

A Networking Website

LIBC has developed an interactive website (www.libc.net) with updated information on the organization and its members. The website's aim is to encourage constructive suggestions and comments, display the profile of member companies, and promote the energetic benefits that each member can offer to the others. Other services to benefit from include support for businesspeople, as well as access to a database of professionals and contacts all over the world.

Successful Conferences

LIBC has organized conferences and workshops, in Lebanon and abroad, with outstanding results.

November 2001 witnessed a conference by **LIBC** in Belgium, which has a very active Lebanese community. A related dinner was hosted under the auspices of Prince Laurent of Belgium where Minister Charles Ferdinand Nothomb underlined the vital role of the Lebanese community in the Belgian economy.

In May 2002, **LIBC** organized a conference called the Lebanese-Arab Investments and Economic Integration, which was organized in Dubai with the support of the Ministry of Economy and Trade, represented at the conference by Mr. Basil Fuleihan. Another highlight of the event was the participation of Banque du Liban, which was represented by the bank's First Deputy Governor, Nasser Saidi. The conference was held under the auspices of Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashed Al Maktoum, who is The Deputy Governor of Dubai, Minister of Finance and administrator of various government agencies.

In June 2003, **LIBC** achieved major success with **Planet Lebanon 2003**, held under the patronage of President Luiz Ignácio Lula da Silva of Brazil and the President of the Council of Ministers Mr. Rafic Hariri of Lebanon. The Conference was a breakthrough in history, as it witnessed the signing of various trade accords between the two countries.

LIBC's fourth conference, **Planet Lebanon 2004**, was held in Lebanon under the patronage of President Emile Lahoud. With an accompanying exhibition, the conference received considerable interest from the business world. **Planet Lebanon 2004** featured business associations, exporters, producers and a host of other establishments and organizations. Various government agencies also took part in this event.

LIBC's Fifth Conference **Planet Lebanon 2005** was held in Central America in the Island of Curacao. This conference in Central America received a great appreciation from the leader of Curacao and the government of Holland.

The Conference was also attended by Sheikh Saad El Hariri and by a large delegation from the Lebanese Government, ministers, members of parliament and business people.

The Lebanese community from Curacao, Venezuela, Panama and other Central American countries attended and welcomed the Conference, since it has significantly supported their cause and placed them on the map of Lebanese Expats as an important community supporting Lebanon.

LIBC's Sixth Conference Planet Lebanon 2010 will be held in Beirut – Lebanon – Beirut International Exhibition and Leisure center (**Biel**).

This conference is receiving a great appreciation from the leaders of the Lebanese Immigrants, Business people, and the Lebanese government.