



Press Release

## **THE JOINT ITALIAN ARAB CHAMBER OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE ARAB LEAGUE AND THE GENERAL UNION OF ARAB CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**

**Rome, June 20, 2016** – In a note sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Council of Arab Ambassadors, chaired by H.E. Ambassador Hassan Abouyoub, announced that the Economic and Social Council of the League of Arab States, in conjunction with the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (Uccia), officially recognize the Joint Italian Arab Chamber (JIAC) as the sole organization qualified to certify the origin of the goods exported to Arab countries. The same note states that, consequently, those who were, in the past, licensed to provide this service are no longer authorized to certify the origin of goods from Italy and destined to Arab countries, as they are not any longer entitled to represent the League of Arab States and the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce in Italy and abroad.

The official recognition from the most influential economic and commercial Arab institutions, allows the Joint Arab Italian Chamber (JIAC) to carry on its program of activities, and to support to the companies interested in the processes of internationalization in Arab countries, while contributing to the promotion and development of economic and trade relations between Italy and the Arab world.

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## **H.E. AZOUZ ENNIFAR APPOINTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE JOINT ITALIAN ARAB CHAMBER.**

*On the occasion of the meeting with the Council of the Arab Diplomatic Corps in Italy, the Joint Italian Arab Chamber announces the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Azouz Ennifar as JIAC's Secretary General.*

**Rome, March 23, 2016** – The First Vice President of the Joint Italian Chamber Yousuf El Maimani, together with the Second Vice President Dr. Pietro Paolo Rampino, met today in Rome with the Arab Diplomatic Corps in Italy together with the representative of the Mission of the Arab League in Rome and the Dean of Arab Ambassadors.

On the occasion of the meeting, the Joint Italian Arab Chamber announced the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Azouz Ennifar as the Chamber's Secretary General. A Tunisian diplomat with a long distinguished international career, Ennifar has served as Ambassador to the United States between 1994 and 1997; he represented Tunisia at the World Bank and International Monetary Fund prior to his appointment as Ambassador to Italy in 1998, and also served as UN Secretary General Special Representative for the mission to Ethiopia and Eritrea.

The Vice President of the Joint Italian Arab Chamber, H.E. Yousef El Maimani, said: *“With the designation of H.E. Ambassador Azouz Ennifar to the role of Secretary General, the Joint Italian Arab Chamber gains a high-profile figure who, alongside other influential members of the Board, bestows more prestige and international importance to the Association. We are confident that the expertise of the new Secretary General in the economic, financial and commercial field will give a remarkable contribution to the JIAC's activities. The Arab Ambassadors also confirmed their support to the Joint Italian Arab Chamber”.*

**For additional information:**

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Press release

## **THE JOINT ITALIAN CHAMBER'S (JIAC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS OFFICIALLY MET FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ROME**

*The JOINT ITALIAN ARAB CHAMBER kicks off its activities by appointing four Deputy Chairman*

**Rome, February 8th, 2016** – The Joint Italian Arab Chamber's (JIAC) new Board of Directors convened today for the first time in Rome. The meeting took place before the new association was officially presented to an audience made up of prominent Italian and Arab representatives from institutions, the manufacturing sector and banking industry.

The Board, chaired by Cesare Trevisani, Deputy Chairman of the Trevi Group, CEO of Trevi SpA and former Deputy Chairman of Confindustria, confirmed the appointments of the four Deputy Chairman, two of whom are Italian and two Arab. The new Italian Deputy Chairmen are Pietro Paolo Rampino (responsible for the treasury) and Veneto industrialist, Alessandro Vescovini. On the Arab side, the Deputy Chairmen are Yousuf Al Maimani of Saudi Arabia and Ahmed Al Midfa of the UAE.

The JOINT ITALIAN ARAB CHAMBER is a non-profit association established by prominent members of the Italian manufacturing sector, banking industry and public sector, including Confindustria, the Italian Trade Agency (ICE), SIMEST and SACE. JIAC is supported by prestigious members of the Arab entrepreneurial sector and officially recognized by the main Arab institutions, including the Arab League, the General Union of Chambers of Commerce for Arab Countries, Ambassadors and Diplomatic corps in Rome. The latter also confirmed that, as of March 1 2016, the JIAC will be officially authorized to issue certifications and legalizations of documents necessary for business activities in the Arab countries that require them.

Cesare Trevisani, Chairman of the JIAC, grateful for the enthusiastic response this initiative has had, said: “ *Thanks to JIAC's extensive network of contacts, Italian companies will be able to count on a day-to-day support for the solution of those small yet great difficulties that sometimes make it impossible to operate in a foreign market. If we think that just 6 percent of our total exports of goods goes to Arab*



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*markets, we can understand how we could better utilize the business development potential with these countries, considering the great opportunities for trade and investment in many leading Italian sectors.*

*Several institutions are committed in filling this gap, and JIAC has been set up with the ambition to act as a complementary body, carrying out the follow-up actions necessary to ensure that the effort made by the Italian system in recent years has continuity on the ground. As Chairman, I wish JIAC becomes a place where our cultures can meet, for I am convinced that the capability to share different know-how, working approaches and entrepreneurial cultures, social organizations and religious cultures, can be, with no doubt, the success key to achieve better business results. This is how JIAC intends to operate, with a strong bilateral vocation”.*

H.E. Mahmadou Ould Mohamed Mahmoud, Chairman of the General Union of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, also commented: *“I am dearly connected to Italy from more than sixteen years, and I embrace with great satisfaction the establishment of the JOINT ITALIAN ARAB CHAMBER, being sure it will give a fundamental contribution in supporting and assist the Italian companies aiming to operate with the Arab world. Particularly, I believe JIAC can be very also important for educational and cultural activities, helping the small and medium enterprises to successfully enter into the Arab markets.*

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