



From: Pierre Lecocq, President Uniapac International
To: Uniapac European Board

Paris, November 3rd. 2010

Dear Friends,

For the last two years, I have kept you regularly informed in our Boards of the very rich experience of our Lebanese friends in Beirut where they set up an Islamo-Christian dialogue group. This group composed of 6 Muslim executives (3 Sunnites and 3 Chiites) and 6 Christians (4 Catholic Maronites, 1 Protestants and 1 orthodox) meets every month to exchange on our « profit of values » book.

The fundamental principle is to share practical business experiences among professionals and to analyze them from the perspective of the place of Man in these situations and in the choice of decisions. These exchanges lead naturally to an exchange on each other anthropological sources thus on each other faiths. It is not a spiritual exchange. It is a professional exchange which leads to an exchange on each other spiritual sources. This has been a very enriching experience for the participants.

At a time where Europe and the Islamic world are getting more and more intertwined and where the lack of knowledge of each other creates misunderstandings, fears and rejects, this experience is a sign of light.

Our Lebanese friends have decided to make this light more visible and to create a major event around this experience by organizing in the Fall of 2012 a major Congress with the aim of gathering in Beirut for 2 days hundreds of Muslims and Christians executives from Europe and Muslim states. This theme will be the place of man in the world economy. Besides the unique opportunity for exchanges and mutual enrichment for the participants, this Congress will be a very important sign to the world at a time where it is losing its sense.

To help preparing this Congress, we have decided to organize next spring a 2 days preparatory meeting in Beirut involving the European Uniapac Associations and Muslim executives from the Mediterranean Muslim states. To facilitate this preparatory meeting the Uniapac Foundation will finance the round trip air ticket to Beirut for the Uniapac Europe Association Members who would wish so. The goal would be to have 2 to 3 participants from each European Uniapac Association and considering the importance of such an event I would recommend participation of members of the Associations' leadership.

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The meetings venue will be the following:

- Location : Beirut
- Dates: From Friday March 25th. 2011 evening to Sunday march 26th. 2011 noon.
- Tentative Program :
 - Friday 25th evening: participation at the chapel of the Beirut Jesuit University to the interreligious Annunciation ceremony which for the last 3 years has gathered the 17 Lebanese religious communities, Christians and Muslims.
 - Saturday 26th: interreligious groups exchanging on what means « man as an end » in various business issues and on our respective spiritual sources.
 - Sunday 27th morning: study groups on the next steps to prepare the 2012 Congress.
 - For accompanying spouses, a visit of Beirut and surroundings will be organized.
 - The program will be organized to allow a return trip on Sunday afternoon, but for those who would wish to stay longer, a very interesting visit of Lebanon can be organized the following days.
 - Cost: the round trip air ticket to Beirut will be financed for the participants by the Uniapac Foundation as well as lunches and dinners. Participants will have to finance their local hotel costs (various hotels will be proposed), and if they elect to, their spouse costs as well as the Lebanon tour.

I do hope these very favorable conditions and the warm welcome I know our Lebanese friends will give us, will make of this Preparatory Meeting a very successful one and will offer us a unique experience and a unique opportunity to support this project.

For the organization, I ask you to be prepared to indicate at **our next Board in Budapest on December 3rd. 2010** the number of your participants. Considering the importance of these projects, I underline again that it would very valuable that these participants be members of the leadership team of your associations.

Counting on your active support, and looking forward to seeing you in Budapest,

Pierre Lecocq
President Uniapac International

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