



Celebrating 10 Years of Service to Moroccan-American Life Scientists



PRESENTATION:

This meeting will bring together the Moroccan Scientific Community of North-America. We are expecting 60-75 participants mainly from the States and Canada. The primary goal of the meeting is to create a framework to strengthen the network of Moroccan Scientists by increasing contacts and collaborations. In addition, a well tailored scientific program will expose the latest advancements in the fields of biomedicine, plant and human diseases, and novel technologies. A session in this annual meeting will bring many experts in non-academic field to share their expertise and experiences in drug regulation, grant reviewing, biotechnology and pharmaceutical sciences. The last session will include a debate on Moroccan-American Cooperation.

The meeting reception will take place Friday at the National Institutes of Health located at 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 10-Room 7S235, Bethesda, Maryland and Saturday meeting sessions at Bethesda Marriott 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland.

AMONG THIS YEAR'S INVITED GUESTS & SPEAKERS:

From Morocco

- H.E. Driss El Yazami: President of the High Council of Moroccans Living Abroad.
- H. E. Aziz Mekouar: Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the U.S.A.
- TBA speaker from The "Centre National de Recherche Scientifique et Technique" (CNRST-Morocco)

From USA

- Youssef Bennani, PhD, VP, Vertex Pharmaceuticals.
- Judy Levin, Msc, Program Officer for the Middle East and North Africa, Division of International Relations, National Institutes of Health.
- Grazilla Piras, PhD, Life Technologies.
- Ramesh Vemuri, PhD/Jeanette L. Johnson, PhD, Chief of the Scientific Review Branch & Scientific Review, Officer, NIA, NIH.
- Dr. Daniel Wiegmann, Program Director in the Division of Integrative Organismal Systems, National Science Foundation.

Organizing Committee:

- Scientific Committee

Mohammed Bourdi , PhD, Maryland
Mustapha Abdelouahed, PhD, Massachusetts
Mouna Lagraoui, PhD, Quebec
Bouziane Azeddine, PhD, Quebec
Kamal El Bissati, PhD, NewYork
Hassan Badrane, PhD, Pittsburgh
Zahra Agherbaoui, PhD, Quebec
Mounir Chehtane, MS, Florida
Fouad Lemtiri-Chlieh, PhD, Connecticut
Mustapha Kandouz PhD, Quebec
Mohamed S. Belkziz, PhD, Massachusetts

- Local Organizing Committee

Mohammed Bourdi , PhD, Maryland
Latifa Elhadri, PhD, Maryland
Majid Laassri, PhD, Maryland
Hassan Ghazal, PhD, Maryland/Morocco

PROGRAM

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9th, 2009

5:00-7:00 pm Registration and Reception:

**National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Building 10/Rm 7S235
Bethesda, Maryland**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10th, 2009

8:00-8:50 am Registration and Breakfast:

**Bethesda Marriott
5151 Pooks Hill Road
Bethesda, Maryland**

8:50-9:00 am

Opening Remarks
Mohammed Bourdi, PhD
Meeting Organizing Committee, Chair

Welcome address
Mustapha Abdelouahed, Ph.D.
President of the Moroccan American Society for Life Sciences

Mouna Lagraoui, Ph.D.
President of BioAlliance Canada-Maroc

Session II, Cell Biology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Chairpersons: TBA

9:00-10:00 am

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

- Ez-Zoubeir Amri, PhD, IBDC, Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis, CNRS, Nice, France
- TBA

10:00-10:30 am

Coffee Break

Session III, Genomics, Proteomics & Human Diseases

Chairperson: TBA

10:30-11:30

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

- Abdelghafour Elkahoun, PhD, The National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH, Bethesda
- TBA

Special Session, Bioethic

11:30-12:00

Ahmed Abbadi: Professor of Comparative Religion and Islamic Thought at Qadi Ayyad University in Marrakech. Director of Islamic Affairs, Moroccan Ministry of Islamic Affairs.

12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch Break

Session IV, Biotech. Pharmaceutical Sciences & Drug Regulation

Chairpersons: TBA

1:00-3:30 pm

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

Youssef Bennani, PhD, VP, Vertex Pharmaceuticals,

Salma Lemtouni, MD, Medical Officer, Food and Drug Admin.

Latifa Elhadri, PhD: US-Pharmacopoeia

Grazilla Piras, PhD, Life Technologies

Ramesh Vemuri, PhD/ Jeannette L. Johnson, PhD, Chief of the Scientific Review Branch & Scientific Review, Officer, NIA, NIH

Karim Benjelloun, Founder ScienceFirst

3:30-4:00 pm

Coffee Break

Session V, Moroccan American Scientific Cooperation

4:00-6:00 pm

Moderators: **Mustpha Abdelouahed, PhD & Mouna Lagraoui, PhD**

Daniel Wiegmann, PhD, Program Director in the Division of Integrative Organismal Systems, National Science Foundation

Judy Levin, Msc, Program Officer for the Middle East and North Africa, Division of International Relations, National Institutes of Health

AbdelAziz Jaouad, Vice Director, Centre National de Recherche Scientifique et Technique (FINCOME Cell, Morocco)

Speaker TBA, Council for International Exchange of Scholars

Invited guests:

- **Mr Driss El Yazami**, President of the Council of Moroccans Living Abroad (CCME)
- **H. E. Aziz Mekouar**, Morocco Ambassador to the US

DISCUSSION, DEBATE & CLOSING REMARKS

Session VI, Biomatec Business

6:00-7:00 pm

Moderators: **Dr. Mohammed Bourdi**, Vice-President,

Dr. Kamal Elbissati, General Secretary & **Mounir Chehtane**, Treasurer.

7:30-10:00 pm

GROUP DINNER (location TBA)



Visit our website for more information about meeting registration, hotel accommodation and Saturday dinner at:

NIH2009@us.biomatec.org