



TABLE 1  
DISTRIBUTION OF SKILLED WORKERS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES LIVING IN OECD COUNTRIES BY CITIZENSHIP, 2000  
(NATURALIZED – NON NATURALIZED)

	<i> Holders of diplomas </i>			
	<i> Non-naturalized </i>	<i> Naturalized </i>	<i> Not specified </i>	<i> Total </i>
<b>Maghreb countries</b>				
Algeria	44 338	162 564	8 445	215 347
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2 794	5 086	7 661	15 541
Mauritania	1 690	722	333	2 745
Morocco	49 391	113 241	44 485	207 117
Tunisia	15 065	49 465	3 660	68 190
<b>Total</b>	<b>113 278</b>	<b>331 078</b>	<b>64 584</b>	<b>508 940</b>
<b>The Arab Mashreq countries – neighbouring countries</b>				
Comoros	725	1 164	12	1 901
Djibouti	552	995	45	1 592
Egypt	35 994	93 392	18 449	147 835
Jordan	8 892	14 559	3 189	26 640
Lebanon	22 755	80 955	6 980	110 690
Palestine	1 287	3 764	1 530	6 581
Somalia	5 063	6 203	5 250	16 516
Sudan	7 289	5 157	4 620	17 066
Syrian Arab Republic	12 814	26 643	4 441	43 898
Yemen	1 723	1 987	2 577	6 287
<b>Total</b>	<b>97 094</b>	<b>234 819</b>	<b>47 093</b>	<b>379 006</b>
<b>Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Iraq</b>				
Bahrain	872	801	1 344	3 017
Iraq	24 318	35 845	23 302	83 465
Kuwait	7 144	7 183	2 215	16 542
Oman	374	151	487	1 012
Qatar	635	515	315	1 465
Saudi Arabia	6 386	3 833	2 129	12 348

- (d) The Arab community in OECD countries had a higher level of education than the native-born in OECD countries. The percentage of highly-educated persons reached 21.6 per cent among the Arab community and 19.9 per cent among the native-born;



## *2. The Annual Arab-Regional Meeting for Governmental Experts of Migration*

Since 2006, the Arab-Regional Meeting for Governmental Experts of Migration has been held annually to exchange information and coordinate and unify the Arab vision in preparation for the Global Forum on Migration and Development. In particular, the meeting aims to:

- (a) Evaluate the achievements concerning the recommendations of the Global Forum in the Arab world;
- (b) Identify common views, recommendations and suggestions related to Global Forum panels;
- (c) Exchange information and discuss developments in the field of international migration in the Arab region; and
- (d) Make suggestions to support the roles of the “AOIM” programme by the LAS as one of the main mechanisms to activate the developmental roles of Arab migration.

## *3. The 2009 Arab Regional Expert Group Meeting on Migration and Development*

The meeting was organized by PPMD/LAS and the IOM with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Migration held in Cairo, Egypt, from 29 June to 1 July 2009. About 80 participants, representing Governments, international organizations and research organizations attended the meeting, including participants from 16 Arab countries. The meeting focused on integrating human mobility issues into development policies in the Arab region.

In conclusion, the meeting recommended that participants, including civil society organizations and Government representatives attend the 2009 Global Forum meeting. The meeting also asked the Arab League and other donors to provide financial support for low-income countries to attend the Global Forum. At the end of the meeting, participants adopted a common regional view on issues to be raised at the forthcoming Global Forum meeting in Athens in 2009. The regional view,

- (a) Reconfirms the request of Arabic countries to adopt Arabic as one of the main languages of the Global Forum, and calls upon the Arab League to follow-up on Global Forum recommendations;
- (b) Calls for the establishment of an Arab regional research and training center within the framework of the League of Arab States in cooperation with relevant international and Arab organizations. This center would contribute to collecting necessary renewable and updated data, and create national and regional databases on international migration, and technical support for national related institutions; and
- (c) Calls to intensify and strengthen broad international cooperation and partnership to address the consequences of the global economic crisis on migrants in receiving countries, to protect their human rights and to provide support for sending countries in order to enable them to reintegrate return migrants.

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NOTE

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Observatory, see <http://www.poplas.org/en/page.asp?id=3> (accessed March 10, 2010).

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REFERENCE

League of Arab States (2009). *Regional Report on Arab Labour Migration: Brain Drain or Brain Gain?* Cairo, Egypt: League of Arab States.