



## AID DEVELOPMENTS

### **European Union expands its support to Lebanese Quality development programme**

On 24 April, the Minister of Economy and Trade and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union launched two programmes: Phase III of the QUALEB Programme and a Twinning Programme, which aim at reinforcing the national quality infrastructure of Lebanon.

Phase III of the QUALEB programme, amounting to Euro 4.4 million, aims at increasing the quality of Lebanese products in conformity with international standards for health, safety and the environment; increasing the quality of services in the private and the public sectors, which will have a positive impact on Lebanese exports; and contributing to the development of an effective and service-oriented public sector. The EU support consists of technical assistance and the provision of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), laboratories and quality inspection equipment.

The twinning programme of Euro 1.4 million is a cooperation instrument that partners the Lebanese administration and selected EU Member State public administration(s) in order to exchange good practices and to achieve EU-level standards.

This EU support is part of a larger Euro 14 million programme dedicated to improving the competitiveness of the Lebanese private sector, in particular its small and medium enterprises. The main goals of the EU support are to increase Lebanese exports, to create new jobs and to strengthen the Lebanese economy. For further information contact QUALEB: [infoqualeb@economy.gov.lb](mailto:infoqualeb@economy.gov.lb) or visit the website: <http://www.economy.gov.lb/index.php/serviceSubCat/2/32/8>



## AID COORDINATION

### **A Lebanese delegation attended the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings**

A Lebanese delegation including the Director General of Finance participated in the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings on April 15-20, 2013 in Washington D.C. The delegation updated and discussed fiscal, monetary and economic developments and issues in a number of bilateral meetings.

### **Ministry of Finance participated in the 14th FEMIP Committee meeting**

On 22 April 2013, a representative from the Ministry of Finance participated in the 14th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment Partnership (FEMIP) in Luxembourg. The meeting discussed the reinforcement of the advisory governance FEMIP and the draft FEMIP Operational Plan (2013). The meeting covered also the agenda of the next FEMIP Ministerial meeting.

### **European Union supports democracy and human rights**

On 2 May 2013, the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon launched a call for proposals for the funding of projects aimed at Strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform. The objective is to contribute to the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. The projects to be selected should address issues, such as the legal and social protection of vulnerable groups, the promotion of human rights by fostering human rights education in particular, the support to Lebanese authorities to fulfill their commitments in the field of human rights, among others. The grants awarded are between Euro 50,000 and Euro 250,000. Partnership is mandatory and there has to be at least one Lebanese organization. The deadline for submission of concept notes is 3 June 2013 at 4 p.m. (16h00). The guidelines for applicants are available at the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon and on the following websites: [http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/index_en.htm) <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/euro-paid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>