

## **Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between LIBNOR and the Order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut to Establish the National Electrotechnical Committee**



The Lebanese Standards Institution, represented by the Chairman of the board of directors Habib Ghaziri, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Lebanese Federation of Engineers and Architects, represented by its President Jad Tabet, concerning the cooperation in establishing the Lebanese National Electrotechnical Committee, on Saturday, June 27, 2020, at the headquarters of the Order of Engineers in Beirut, in the presence of LIBNOR Director General Lena Dargham, vice chairman Assad Kallassi, member of the board Robert Sfeiri, Head of Services Department Mohamad Chamas, Rapporteur of the Order's coordination committee with LIBNOR Firas Bou Ziab and the coordinator of this memorandum Dr. Jamal Haydar.

This memorandum paves the way for establishing the National Electrotechnical Committee, which is the cornerstone of membership in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC).

## **Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between LIBNOR and the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Tripoli**

The Lebanese Standards Institution (LIBNOR) and the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Tripoli and North Lebanon signed, at the headquarters of the latter, a memorandum of understanding under the auspices and in presence of the Minister of Industry Imad Huballah, along with the President of the Chamber Toufic Dabbousi, the Chairman of LIBNOR Board of Directors Habib Ghaziri, LIBNOR Director General Lena Dargham, Vice-President of the Chamber Ibrahim Fawz, members of the Board of Directors Houssam Kbaiter and Jean Al Saied, Vice-Chairman of LIBNOR Board of Directors Assad Kallassi, LIBNOR Head of Services Department Mohamad Chamas, Director of the Chamber of Tripoli Linda Sultan, and several owners of industrial enterprises in the North.

This memorandum is within the frame of partnership between the private and public sectors in order to promote compliance with standards. This is one of LIBNOR strategic goals aiming at establishing and reinforcing relationships with all stakeholders in Lebanon, in particular the Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, the Orders of Engineers and Architects and universities, in order to increase the use of standards, stimulate economy, facilitate trade and protect consumers.

## **Announcement of Prime Minister on Lebanese Standards for Products Used in the Fight against Coronavirus**

The Minister of Industry Imad Huballah, announced, on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at the Serail, under the auspices and in the presence of Prime Minister Hassan Diab, Lebanese standards and technical specifications for products and equipment used in the fight against the pandemic. These standards were developed by the Lebanese Standards Institution in cooperation with subcommittees of the Scientific Advisory Council for Industrial Development established by the Ministry of Industry within the framework of planning the fight against the coronavirus outbreak and informing manufacturers about the required standards for a product that meets medical and hospital needs and complies with standards and public safety requirements.

The Minister of Industry commended LIBNOR for its efforts in this regard. The Lebanese Standards Institution managed to conclude its collaborative work within two weeks through the cooperation and coordination between its technical committees, the Advisory council subcommittees and around 80 experts and specialists. All these efforts bore fruit with the development of new standards for disinfectants, antiseptics and personal protective equipment, such as face masks, protective clothing, surgical drapes, medical gloves and respiratory protective devices, especially ventilators.

## **Minister of Industry Imad Huballah launches Scientific Council for Industrial Development under the Auspices of Prime Minister Hassan Diab**

The Minister of Industry Imad Huballah launched, on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at the Grand Serail, the proceedings of the Scientific Advisory Council to help the Ministry of Industry in improving industrial production and upgrading local industry, under the auspices of Prime Minister Hassan Diab. The pandemic accelerated the establishment of this council. Its first works will be, in



coordination with the Ministry of Public Health, assessing the needs for medical equipment and other supplies (personal protective equipment, ventilators, masks, etc.) and controlling their quality and the quality of local manufacturing in accordance with international standards in order to provide alternatives to and ease the shortage of imported devices.

The Council consists of Advisor to the Prime Minister Assaad Eid, Director General of the Lebanese Standards Institution (LIBNOR) Lena Dargham, President of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI) Fadi Gemayel, Advisor to the Minister of Industry Mohamad Safa, and representatives of the Ministries of Industry and Public Health, the Industrial Research Institute (IRI), the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL), the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), the Lebanese University, the American University of Beirut (AUB), Saint Joseph University (USJ), the Lebanese American University (LAU), the Islamic University, Healthcare Technology Management and Development and Phoenix Technology.

### **Recall of disinfectants Non-Conforming to LIBNOR Standards**

The Ministry of Industry issued the following statement: “The laboratory tests carried out at the Industrial Research Institute on samples of disinfectants and detergents manufactured or formulated locally and sold at various sale points, showed that many of these products were non-conforming to mandatory standards, in particular the standard NL EN 1500:2015, issued by the Lebanese Standards Institution. These Standards are legally binding according to the Decree 5705 issued on 01/10/2019. This nonconformity endangers public safety, disrupts public order and violates the laws in force.”

The Ministry of Industry warned the manufacturers of these products against not conforming to the effective standards in the production processes. The Ministry calls on them to recall these products within 48 hours. In the case of non-compliance, the Ministry will take legal measures against the violators and would go as far as closing down the factories and taking legal action.

## **Memorandum of Cooperation between the Lebanese Standards Institution and the Tripoli Bar Association**



On May 3, 2020, the Tripoli Bar Association, represented by its President Muhammad Al Murad, and the Lebanese Standards Institution (LIBNOR), represented by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Habib Ghaziri, signed a memorandum of cooperation on raising awareness and promoting legal education to fight corruption and bribery.

## Order of Engineers and Architects and Lebanese Standards Institution Organize a Symposium on World Standards Day, on October 14, 2020

The Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut and the Lebanese Standards Institution organized a symposium entitled “Standards Build Trust” to celebrate World Standards Day, at the hall of the Order of Engineers in Beirut, with the participation of Arch. Jad Tabet, President of the Lebanese Order of Engineers and Architect, and Mr.



Sergio Mujica, Secretary General of the International Organization for Standardization, through Zoom Platform, and in the presence of LIBNOR Director General Lena Dargham, members of the board of the Order, Head of Services Department Mohamad Chamas , Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors Dr. Asaad Kallassi and many stakeholders.

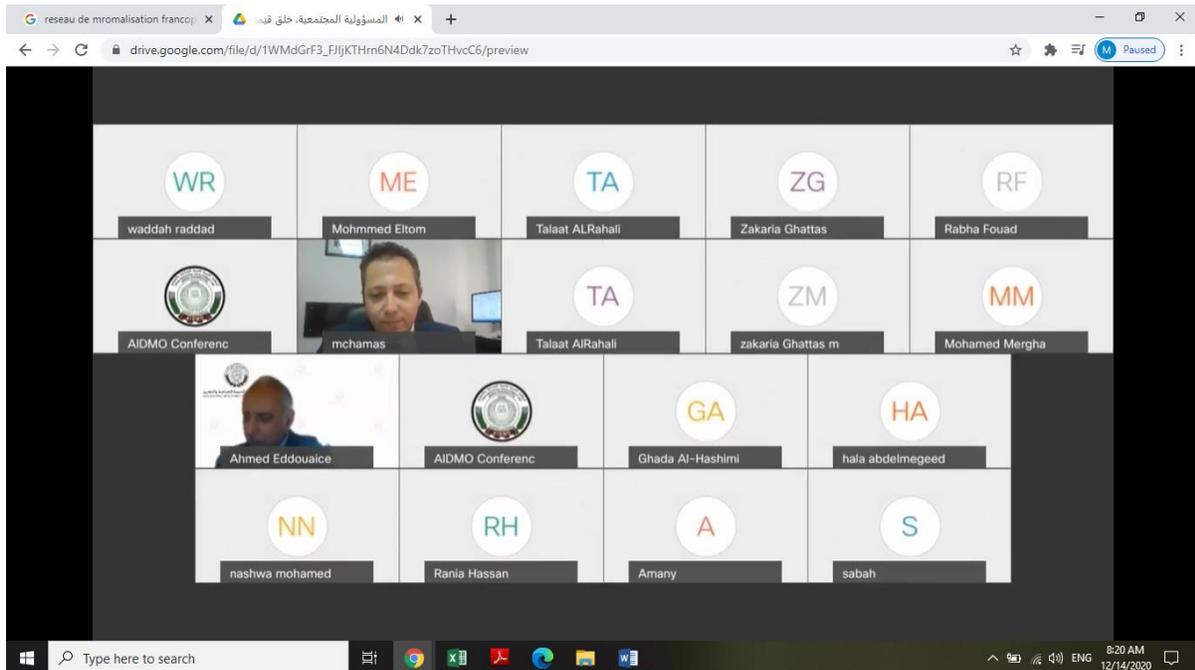
“The theme of World Standards Day 2020, launched by the international organizations ISO, IEC and ITU, is “Protecting the Planet with Standards”. This theme highlights the major role of standards in protecting our natural resources, reducing the environmental impact of industrial production, facilitating the reuse of limited resources, improving energy efficiency and building sustainable cities” said Lena Dargham, LIBNOR Director General.

## Training for Representatives of Arab Standards Bodies

The Lebanese Standards Institution, in cooperation with the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization, organized a training session on “Social Responsibility- Creating Shared Value.”

Expert Mohamad Chamas conducted a training session on social responsibility for more than 50 participants from all Arab countries. Chamas addressed the concept of social responsibility and how to translate this theoretical concept into a scientific strategy which

would create shared values to help solve the problems of the society on one hand and ensure profitability and sustainability of businesses on the other hand. Moreover, the expert explained the methods of assessing these strategies to verify their effectiveness.



## **Participating in International Committees**

The Lebanese Standards Institution took part in the work of several international committees and particularly the international committee ISO TC 232 for standardization in the field of education and learning services. In fact, seven Lebanese experts, members of ISO TC 232, worked with this committee for five days. This is the first time LIBNOR participates with this many experts.

The meeting concluded with an agreement on issuing two new standards, one on the audit of educational organizations management systems and another on the requirements that should be applied.

## **LIBNOR Director General Lena Dargham elected President of Réseau Normalisation et Francophonie- RNF**

LIBNOR Director General Lena Dargham was elected chairwoman of the board of directors of the Réseau Normalisation et Francophonie for 2021-2022. The organization stated in its announcement that Mrs. Dargham is the first woman to head this organization as well as the first chairperson from non-founding countries. The international experience of Mrs. Dargham will allow the organization to keep growing, increase its effectiveness and establish itself at international level.

## **LIBNOR Participates in Awareness Campaign on Health Risks of Lead in Paint**

The Human Environmental Association for Development organized an awareness campaign on health risks related to the use of lead in paints. LIBNOR participated in this campaign as the head of engineering standards division and the head of chemical standards division delivered a lecture on the role of the Institution in issuing national standards that ensure public safety and health.

## **ISO MENA STAR PROJECT**

The International Organization for Standardization held a virtual meeting that included the managers of the project in ISO and the Arab countries. Lebanon was represented by the project manager, expert Mohamad Chamas.

The meeting discussed the results of the project and the initiatives undertaken by companies and factories.

LIBNOR presented what was accomplished during this project: drafting a standard for standards detailing standardization principles and explaining standards development process, as well as training and raising awareness for a large number of representatives of the public and private sectors on the principles of sustainable development with special focus on standards related to the environment, water and energy, in addition to preparing the strategy of the Institution for the coming years.