Alexandria 19- 21 January 2008

Workshop 1

PLAN OF ACTION OF THE MEMORIES AND HISTORY WORKSHOP

Project of Collective History for the Mediterranean Region and the Gulf Area.

- Forming a committee of experts from different specializations to be fully aware of the current situation and to evaluate school curricula in the fields of history, geography, reading, civic education and religion.
- Drafting a report that would record differences, contradictions, gaps, and the distortion of historical facts.
- Defining a new framework of reference for collective history that is based upon "good practices" to converge the different perceptions of national history in a critical manner.

Knowledge of Memory

Providing a group of documents that might include:

- Databases on the history of the Mediterranean, namely the common material, immaterial and spiritual heritage.
- Spreading such experiences as the Arab World Institute's to facilitate knowledge of the "other".
- Ensuring that researchers and the interested public, regardless of their nationality, can access national archives.

Research and Reconciliatory Policies

- The past is an entity by and on itself, and thus must be seen as such so that each concerned party can record its own history.
- Research papers should bear in mind the past in its totality.
- The formation of communication groups that include historians and representatives of public institutions and organizations to ensure the circulation of documents, important works, ideas, and research papers. Such groups could help exchange experiences around conflict, political violence, and the appropriate means of deterrence. Avoidance could be achieved by preserving the memory of victims, participating in historical events, and setting a framework for concepts that aim to facilitate the tackling of such issues as truth and reconciliation.