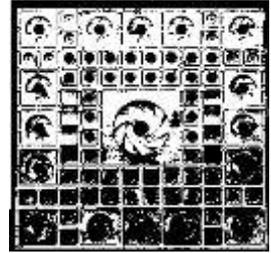


ARMENIAN-ARABIC SCIENTIFIC - EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL CENTER



YEREVAN 2016

ARABIC SCIENTIFIC - EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL REGIONAL CENTER

In recent years, the proactive steps have been undertaken in the Republic of Armenia for the maintenance and development of the traditional friendly relations with the Arab countries. This is evidenced by the organization and conduction of the Days of Culture of the Arab countries in Yerevan.

At present about 20000 citizens from Arab countries are living in Armenia. In 2016—2017 academic year 2000 foreigners from the Middle East countries (Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan) study in the educational institutions of the Republic of Armenia. 1500 students are enrolled in general education programs and about 500 students are studying in vocational and higher education institutions. In this respect, for last few years the positive dynamics of foreign applicants (from Arab countries) in educational institutions of the Republic of Armenia can be observed.

The Chair of Arabic Studies within the Faculty of Oriental Studies has been functioning at Yerevan State University for decades. The Chair of Arabic Studies organizes educational and research activities in the scope of the following areas: linguistics, medieval Arabic culture and history, Islamic studies, New and Modern Arabic literature, the study of contemporary regional problems, as well as Hebrew Studies. The traditions and cultural relations, established in recent decades, have contributed to the strengthening of friendly relations between Armenia and the Arab countries.

The establishment of Arabic Scientific Educational and Cultural Regional Centre will promote the expansion of developments in bilateral relations between Armenia and the Arab countries. The overall cost of the Arabic scientific - educational and cultural regional center project is estimated from 5 to 10 million USD.

Site location: Khanjyan street, 33rd district of Yerevan, in the framework of the

“**Firdusi**” old district reconstruction 300 mln USD investment project.

Picture 1. Possible site location



As the region's largest and unprecedented unit, the Center will also ensure the implementation of the Arabic scientific—educational and cultural programs in effective cooperation with the Russian Federation and Georgia. The center will be located nearby public schools, State Song Theatre of Armenia and Musical School. This creates great studying and educational friendly environment in the heart of Yerevan city.

The regional center will include the following platforms:

- high school,
- cultural and educational club,
- Arabic Language Teaching Center,
- dormitory facilities on campus,
- facilities for trainings and laboratory
- scientific educational and research activities.



The use of these platforms and joint scientific-educational and cultural programs will promote the improvement and development of the potential of regional cooperation between Armenia and Arab countries. The regional center will stimulate the learning of Arabic culture and contribute the expansion of scientific-educational activities by the implementation of research and exchange programs between Armenia, Arab countries, Russia and Georgia.



The functioning of regional center will include the implementation of educational, cultural and training programs, as well as contribute to the establishment of technical and material basis, textbooks and manuals. The Center will also promote the integration of citizens with the Arabic culture into Armenian society by ensuring the development of professional skills of these citizens.

The establishment of the Arabic Scientific-Educational and Cultural Regional Centre is viewed as a new opportunity for the development of Armenian-Arab relationship. The center will serve as a platform for the implementation of many projects in the areas of intercultural communication, and will enable to develop the policies of public democracy, by promoting direct contacts between different layers of the population and thus break many stereotypes and significantly contribute to the improvement of Armenia's positive image in the Arab and Islamic world.