

## Talal Abu-Ghazaleh College of Business Launched



Left to right: Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh, Dr. Saidam, Dr. Mousa, Dr. Touqan and Dr. Burkhardt

**A**MMAN - Under the patronage of the Jordanian Prime Minister HE Dr. Marouf Al Bakhit, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh College of Business (TAGCB), one of the major faculties of the German Jordanian University, was launched on February 27, 2006 in a special ceremony at the Amman Marriott Hotel.

The ceremony was attended by high ranking government officials, ambassadors, and representatives from Arab and foreign countries in the presence of the Secretary General of the League of Arab States H.E. Dr. Amr Mousa and the Palestinian Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology Dr. Sabri Saidam.

The College symbolizes the first real strategic partnership between the private and public sectors in the field of higher education in Jordan.

"The vision of the German Jordanian University is to play a pivotal role in socio-economic and professional development in Jordan, and its mission is to provide life-long learning and continuing higher education with links to the productive industrial and service sectors of the economy," said Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman and CEO of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAGorg).

TAGCB, which is intended to serve as the largest professional training center in the Arab world in the field of Business Administration, seeks to establish and maintain several key partnerships with counterpart centers and academic institutions worldwide, in coordination with the German Jordanian University.

According to Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh, the College which is expected to have extensions in various Arab countries in the near future will offer bachelors degrees in Financial Sciences, Management Sciences, Information Technology and Intellectual Property.

The MBA in international accounting will be offered jointly with the Arab Society of Certified Accountants' professional qualification, the ACPA (Arab Certified Public Accountant, a program already validated by Cambridge International Examinations at the University of Cambridge).

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## AGIP ISO 9001:2000 Certificate Renewed

AMMAN - The management systems of the Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) Regional Office, International Desks, and Jordan Office have been assessed by the SGS ISO Certification Body in Jordan on February 6, 2006, and certified as meeting the requirements of ISO 9001:2000.

The ISO Certificate was renewed for AGIP for the following activities: trademark, patent, design, copyright, and domain name registration services and other intellectual property related services.

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company, based in Geneva, Switzerland. SGS certifies that systems or services meet the requirements of standards set by governments, standardization bodies (e.g. ISO 9000), or by SGS customers.



AGIP  
Jordan Office  
Regional Office  
International Office

[www.agip.com](http://www.agip.com)

Member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization  
The Arab Organization for Global Professional Services

The MA in Quality Management will link in to the Arab Knowledge Management Society's professional program, the ACQM (Arab Certified Quality Manager), in addition to other specializations.

Similarly, the LLM in Intellectual Property and the MSc. in Conflict Management will be done jointly with the professional qualifications of the Arab Society for Intellectual Property (ASIP) known as ACIPP (Arab Certified Intellectual Property Practitioner) and the ACLM (Arab Certified Legal Mediator).

Deputizing for the Jordanian Premier, Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research H.E. Dr. Khalid Touqan highly commended the establishment of such a College saying, "This partnership, today, comes first and foremost, to translate the vision of His Majesty King Abdullah II, with regard to modernizing the teaching and learning process, and providing quality education at the various levels and stages."

*'The College symbolizes the first real strategic partnership between the private and public sectors'*

"In fact, this collaboration between the business market and the university community is an important investment that would definitely lead to promoting a national culture of innovation," the Minister pointed out.

Ambassador of the German Federal Republic to Jordan Dr. Klaus Burkhardt reiterated the significance of the partnership between the private and public sectors in the field of higher education.

"The partnership between Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization and the German Jordanian University is a good example of how cooperation between the private sector and a public university can work in practice," Burkhardt Added



Part of the attendance

Dr. Labib Khadra, President of the German Jordanian University stressed that the College's mission represents the very mission of the German Jordanian University, which is to produce highly skilled professionals capable of responding and contributing to the comprehensive socio-economic development.

"The College has been established with generous support and funding of Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh to bridge the gap between the output of its educational, research and training programs, on the one hand, and the needs and demands of the industrial and private sector and the labor market, on the other," said Dr. Khadra.

He noted that the University has established Talal Abu-Ghazaleh College of Business to join hands with the various national and international institutions in Jordan, Germany and elsewhere, with a view to providing adequate training to the graduates in the business field and to helping them keep pace with advances, applications and methodologies worldwide.

## AGIP Organizes 'Importance of IPRs & IPRs Licensing' Seminar in Oman

MUSCAT - Under the patronage of the Omani Under-Secretary for Commerce and Industry H.E. Ahmed Bin Hasan Al Dheeb, Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) organized a seminar on the "Importance of IPRs & IPRs Licensing and their Value to National Economy," on February 19, 2006 in Muscat.

The seminar, which was held in partnership with Knowledge Oasis Muscat (KOM) and hosted by the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (PEIE), focused on realizing the importance of intellectual property protection system and

its effective role in economic development.

The event covered a range of issues, including: intellectual property rights (IPRs) and economic development, IP valuation, licensing and technology transfer in addition to the role of governments in encouraging innovators, creators and researchers to utilize IPRs.

The opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman and CEO of Talal Abu Ghazaleh Organization (TAGorg) and Mr. Mohammed Al-Ghassani,

Executive Vice-President of PEIE. "This seminar aims at providing the attendees with the basic information needed to establish a base of knowledge and expertise in the protection and exploitation of intellectual property rights," commented Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh.

Presentations were delivered by a number of high profile personalities in the IP field including: H.E. Saad Al-Faraji, Ambassador of the Arab League in Geneva, Mr. Abdel-Hamid Mamdouh, Director of Trade in Services Division, World Trade Organization (WTO) and Mr. Salim Al Toki, IP Department, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Oman.

## 'Joining WTO: Opportunities and Challenges' Discussed in Oman

MUSCAT - "Oman's private sector is urged to enhance competitive edge to take advantage of the opportunities available in the wake of trade liberalization after the country became a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO)," according to Yahya bin Said Al-Jabri, Executive President of the Omani Capital Market Authority (CMA).

"The government has to formulate suitable policies, and bring in legislations to enhance efficiency and quality," Al-Jabri said during the "Joining WTO: Opportunities and Challenges Facing Public Shareholding Companies" seminar held on February 18 in Muscat.

The seminar, organized by the CMA in association with Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAGorg), was held under the auspices of H.E. Mohammed Nasser Al-Khasibi, Secretary General of the Omani Ministry of National Economy.



Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh with Omani officials at the WTO seminar

As reported by *The Oman Daily Observer*, the seminar discussed the impact of rapid economic developments on joint stock companies and complex economic relations that will ensue as a result of the Arab countries joining the WTO.

Presenting a paper on the implications of Oman's membership in the WTO, Dr. Said Al-Riyami, Advisor at the Omani Ministry of Commerce and Industry, said that corporate sector in the Sultanate could take advantage of the trade liberalization to attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

Meanwhile, Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman and CEO of TAGorg, suggested the formation of an informal regional council for Arab countries to prepare for trade negotiations in the WTO and follow-up.

"Such a regional council could include members from the private sector," Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh said.

"WTO members will have to accept the challenges and opportunities in view of the liberal trade regime," he added.

## Workshop on Practical and Legal Perspectives of IP Held in Amman

AMMAN - The "Practical and Legal Perspectives of Intellectual Property Workshop," which was organized by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAGorg), was held February 6-9, 2006 at the RSS headquarters in Amman.

The four-day workshop sought to create awareness on intellectual property from the legal and technical aspects, laying the basis for setting-up a group of legal and technical experts to assess patents, and to familiarize RSS

employees with Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) policy. Various issues were tackled at the workshop, including, the relationship between innovation and IPRs, valuation of IPRs, industrial property laws in Jordan, commercialization of patents as well as the impact of the patent system on research investment in developing countries.

Representatives from the RSS and TAGorg discussed potential cooperation between the two parties in the field of IP protection and commercialization of the RSS inventions.

## New Practices for Trademark Registration in Qatar

DOHA - With the participation of major intellectual property agents, including Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), Qatari Trademark Registrar, Mr. Ahmed Yusuf Al Juffairi, held a meeting on February 9, 2006 to discuss new practices and mechanisms concerning the trademark registration process in Qatar.

The new practices, which will be applied as of March 9, 2006, incorporate the following:

- New trademark applications and

recordals are to be filed with the needed documents. No applications will be accepted without full documents.

- New trademark applications will be examined and the examination report will be issued within six months from the filing date. At the same time, pending applications filed since May 2002 will also be examined and finalized.

- Once a trademark application is

examined and the examination report is issued, either with condition or without condition, publication of the same is to be arranged within six months.

According to Mr. Al Juffairi, such practices will certainly contribute to streamlining and speeding-up the trademark registration process in Qatar, which will ensure stronger protection for Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and attracting foreign investments to the country.



## New Cyber Law Released in UAE

**A**BU DHABI - Cyber crimes in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will carry a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a Dh200,000 fine, according to the newly issued Cyber Crime Law.

The Law No. 2 of 2006, issued by the President Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, bans people from using digital technology to insult any religion and also clamps

down on Internet crimes such as hacking, credit card fraud, invasion of privacy, copyright violations and cyber theft, reported *The Gulf News*.

The new law, which will help authorities in the UAE fight misuse of cyberspace, will also protect against the violation of signing agreements on the Internet and related document forgery, and other Internet crimes.

## Stringent Penalties for Violators of Copyright Law in KSA

**JEDDAH** - Violators of the Saudi Arabia's copyright law have been warned of tough punishments, including fines up to SR500,000, reported *The Arab News*.

Individuals engaged in the abuse of intellectual property will be jailed for up to one year, according to Saeed Al-Ghamdi, Director of the Culture and Information Ministry's office in the Makkah region.

He said that the Ministry would carry out surprise raids in various parts of the Kingdom to track down violators of the copyright law, which was passed by the Cabinet on August 30, 2003.

"We carry out raids as part of our efforts to enforce the law across the country," Al-Ghamdi stated.

The punishments include shutting down of a company or any other entity involved in the violation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for four months or permanently. The government will destroy all material that is deemed pirated and will confiscate all equipment that is used for copying or forgery.

Individuals and organizations might be ordered to pay compensation for losses caused to the vendors whose software was pirated.

The law applies to all establishments or companies involved in the sale or distribution of software or audiovisual property and any commercial, industrial, service, financial, investment or administrative entity that uses software or audiovisual tools.

The new law provides copyright protection for print publications, lectures, audio recordings, visual displays, and works of art and computer programs. For audio and visual works, photographic works and anonymous works, protection lasts for 25 years following the date of first publication. For other creative works, protection lasts for the author's lifetime plus 50 years.

## WIPO Holds Open Forum on International Patent Law

**GENEVA** - Questions relating to a broad range of patent issues including, in particular, the harmonization of substantive patent law were discussed at an open forum hosted by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva March 1-3, 2006.

According to a press release by the Organization, the forum follows up on a decision by the WIPO General Assembly in 2005 relating to the establishment of a work plan for the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) in respect of the draft Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT).

*The program was organized around five broad themes:*

- Harmonization of Substantive Patent Law: Purpose, Approaches, Limits.
- Subjects of Patent Law proposed for Harmonization.
- Patents as a Source of Information and Innovation: Transfer of Technology and Licensing Practices.
- New Technologies and their specificities.
- The Interface of the Patent System and other areas of public policy.

Talks to conclude an international treaty that would harmonize substantive patent law have made headway since negotiations were launched in May 2001. However, a number of issues is still outstanding, and member states of WIPO have expressed divergent views on the future work plan of the SCP.





# Internet News

## Consultations on Convening the IGF Begin

**G**ENEVA - The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) to be convened later this year will take up such issues as cybercrime, multilingualism and enhancing the role of the Internet as a tool for development, a press release by the United Nations News Center stated.

Secretary-General's Special Advisor for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Mr. Nitin Desai, held consultations on the convening of the IGF in Geneva February 16-17.

The aim of the consultations was to develop a common understanding among all stakeholders on the nature and character of the IGF. The meeting addressed the IGF's scope of work and substantive priorities as well as aspects related to its structure and functioning.

The inaugural meeting of the IGF is scheduled to take place in Athens, Greece, in October or November 2006, with more than 500 participants.

"Those taking part in the consultations had reached a general agreement that the management of the IGF

would be done jointly by governments, civil society, business organizations and the Internet community," Mr. Desai said.

"On other issues, one proposal was to have the IGF address specific management issues, such as spam and the illegal or malicious acts known as cybercrime, noting, however, that certain acts, such as sending or posting pornography, might be seen as a crime in one country and not in another. Another proposal was to have the Forum focus on issues of transparency and capacity building, although the IGF has had no decision-making power," he added.

"In any case, developing countries wanted to ensure that the IGF was relevant to development concerns. In this regard, they had introduced issues of interconnection costs, Internet access and the terms under which Internet users in developing countries could acquire software," he pointed out.

"The IGF would provide a space where different actors could openly discuss the technical, political, social and economic dimensions of the Internet," Mr. Desai concluded.

## Launch Date for .mobi Domain Announced

DUBLIN - Mobile Top Level Domain (mTLD), the registry for dotmobi (.mobi) domain, announced on February 12 the rollout plan for the new mobile-friendly dotmobi domain name. Dotmobi provides the world's first domain name optimized for consumers using the Internet on a mobile device.

The rollout will commence with the "Sunrise Registration Period" for trademark holders in June 2006, followed by the "General Registration" in September. mTLD is working closely with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), registrars, copyright bodies and site owners to ensure that trademarks are properly protected during the Sunrise Period.

The Sunrise Period will be unique in this case as mTLD plans to offer the mobile industry a week long advance period to register their trade and service marks at the end of May. This week long period is referred to as the "Limited Industry Sunrise."

Leading mobile industry associations such as the GSM

Association (one of mTLD's founding investors), Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (CTIA) and the Mobile Marketing Association (MMA) among others have lined up to support the dotmobi sunrise for their membership.

Neil Edwards, General Manager of mTLD, said, "Dotmobi is the first domain name to garner real support from some of the world's leading mobile players and associations. We hope to accelerate the number of mobile-friendly websites available to consumers on the Internet in 2006 by inviting companies to register their trade and service marks in the dotmobi domain."

After the Limited Industry Sunrise, all companies will be able to register their trade- and service-mark names as a second level dotmobi (e.g., myname.mobi) domain name from June to August 2006. Dotmobi will then be available for registration by the general public in September 2006. Companies and individuals who want to register can get their dotmobi domain names through the participating Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) accredited registrars.