



SVENSKA INSTITUTET
I ALEXANDRIA

Major Events at The Swedish Institute in Alexandria, 2002-2003

EDUCATION AND RELIGION (18-21 September, 2002)

A dialogue between those responsible for the training of teachers in religion. The conference was organized by the University of Lund, Sweden, and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria, with participation of 12 Egyptian scholars from Alexandria and Cairo, including al-Azhar, and 12 Scandinavian scholars from Sweden, Norway and Finland.

RESEARCH CO-OPERATION (7-9 October)

Swedish Research Links is a programme for the promotion of interregional research co-operation between Sweden and the Arab countries and Iran. It is sponsored by the Swedish International Development Agency and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria. The programme is now assisted by the Egyptian Ministry for Higher Education and Research, through its Academy for Scientific Research and Technology, ASRT.

MUSEUMS AND THE MEDITERRANEAN (13-15 October)

The National Museum of Mediterranean and Near Eastern Antiquities in Stockholm, Sweden, and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria gathered leading archaeologists, historians and museologists from 10 countries in Europe and the southern Mediterranean. The Alexandria meeting marked the beginning of a unique network, involving experts in various fields such as Egyptology, Greek and Roman Antiquity, Islamic Art and Architecture. A second workshop took place in Stockholm, 9-12 May 2003.

ALEXANDRIA IN LATE ANTIQUITY (17-30 October)

Young postgraduate researchers from the Nordic countries studied different aspects of the cultural and historical legacy of Alexandria during the first centuries C.E. Research topics included Greek literature, Poetics, Hellenic and Roman art, Church history, Patristics, Egyptology, Archaeology and Philosophy. Guiding professors came from the universities of Lund, Copenhagen and Bergen.

Board meeting: TRANSLATORS BUILD BRIDGES OF TEXTS (November 25)

Translators are often neglected when it comes to funds and fame. Poetry and prose, science and journalism – all have their own style. Thus, translation needs a deep understanding of languages as well as cultures. In August 2002 the Swedish Institute in Alexandria launched a programme, aimed at encouraging the translation of important texts from and into Arabic.

SHAKESPEARE IN COLLOQUIAL ARABIC (January-March, 2003)

A series of Workshops to prepare for the opening performance of "*A Midsummer Night's Dream*". The translation aims to deepen the cultural exchange and the dramatic repertoire in the Arab World. The production is a co-operation between Swedish Theatre, the Swedish Institute and the Jesuit Cultural Centre in Alexandria.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS (2-4 February)

Introducing a new intergovernmental venture. The main implementors are, from Sweden: the International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Lund University, and from Egypt: the University of Zagazig. This programme equips industrial planners, engineers and economists with ecological know-how.

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN YOUTH CONFERENCE (19-27 February)

"EuroMed Youth Conference" The Institute hosted an youth leaders' workshop with delegates from Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Denmark, Sweden, and the UK, plus observers from Finland. This was an intensive course in project management in order to develop leadership skills and deepen the dialogue between young people in the Euro-Med area. Inaugurated by the Egyptian Minister of Youth, Dr. Alay el-Din Hillal.

Opening of the EURO-ARAB RESOURCE CENTRE (5 May, 2003)

The Swedish Institute in Alexandria inaugurated its new **Euro-Arab Info Café**, an open resource center in our premises at Corniche al-Mansheya. Here, members will find periodicals and books – including publications from the European Union (EU) – in Arabic as well as in European languages. We have collected works published by centres of intercultural learning such as the Arab Organization for Translation (AOT), the Centre for Arab Unity Studies (CAUS), Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA), and many others.

OUR MENTORS AND GUIDES (6-7 May)

Annual meeting with the International Advisory Committee of the Swedish Institute. On the first day, Dr George Corm and Professor Antoine Zahlan analyzed various aspects of the Arab Human Development Report (UNDP, 2002) and discussed its reception in the region. The second day was devoted to deliberations on interregional research co-operation, hosted by the Arab Academy of Science and Maritime Technology, Abu Qir.

SEVEN LANGUAGES MEET A SWEDISH POET (8-12 May)

A professional translators' workshop on issues related to the interpretation of the famous Swedish poet Gunnar Ekelöf (1907-1968) into Arabic, German, Greek, Kurdish, Persian, Russian and Turkish. As a result, a multilingual collection of his poems will be published.

THE IMAGE OF THE OTHER (26-27 May)

A colloquium with TV producers and journalists from Egypt (including al-Jazeera), Lebanon, Russia, Sweden, and the UK (BBC). The topic: how do we portray each other on the TV screens? What images of Europe and its peoples do Arab channels present, and vice versa? What is the vocation of "Media in Public Service"? Organized in co-operation with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY – Sweden's National Day, 6 June

Bringing together old and new friends of the Institute for a social evening under the Swedish flag, symbolizing the liberation of Swedish territory from foreign rule (6 June, 1523) and the adoption of a modern, democratic constitution (6 June, 1809).

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION (9-10 June)

The Alexandria conference concluded a series of consultations regarding issues of border control and illegal transit migration on both sides of the Mediterranean. This final phase of the programme was financed jointly by the European Commission and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria, and was co-ordinated by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD, based in Vienna). Delegates attended from the following countries: Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the EU commission.

YOUNG SOCIOLOGISTS' CONFERENCE (20-30 August)

Annual Research Conference of Young Arab Social Scientists; organised in co-operation with the Arab Association of Sociologists (Tunis/Beirut).

***TRANSLATION, GLOBALISATION AND THE CRISIS OF INTELLECT
(22-24 September)***

An international workshop organised in co-operation with PEN/Egypt and UNESCO.

RESEARCH CO-OPERATION (28 September - 1 October)

Annual meeting of expert panels for the MENA research links programme. Organised in co-operation with Sida/Sarec and the Swedish Scientific Council joined by the Arab Academy of Science and Technology, Alexandria, and the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Cairo.

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY (6-7 October)

"Culture and Community: dimensions of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership", an interregional seminar intended to evaluate jointly achievements and problems of the Barcelona process. Organized in co-operation with the Schuman Centre/ European University Institute, Florens and the universities of Birmingham (ERI) and Liverpool (EWC).

BOARD MEETING, STOCKHOLM (13 October)

Theme: International co-operation for eradication of poverty and development of sustainable societies.

SWEDISH HEADS OF MISSION IN THE MENA REGION (20-22 October)

Reunion of Swedish ambassadors to North Africa, the Middle East and Iran; organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden.

PEACE RESEARCH IN ARABIC (December)

Launching of the Arabic translation of the SIPRI Yearbook 2003 (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute) in collaboration with the Arab Organization for Translation (AOT) and the Centre for Arab Unity Studies (CAUS).