Abstract

Arab Economic Co-operation and Integration in the Eyes of
Arab Intelligentsia: An Opinion Survey

Efforts to promote economic co-operation and integration among the Arab countries have passed through two main phases. During the first and longer phase extending from the end of the Second World War up to the early 1970s, trade liberalization has been the main theme. The second and contemporary phase has witnessed a shift to alternative approaches of regional co-operation involving the setting up of development funds and joint ventures, etc. These efforts have been slow in the progress towards Economic Unity.

Therefore, an attempt has been made in designing a questionnaire in order to view the serious infectiveness of Arab Economic Integration processes and the measures which might overcome this infectiveness. The questionnaire has been distributed to about 225 Arab Thinkers and Economists who have been involved in Economic Integration and are still working in various Arab Organizations, Universities etc.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to survey the views of those Arab Intelligentsia on the Arab Economic Integration process as a whole and, in particular, the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

This questionnaire is the first questionnaire carried out concerning such broad and important questions distributed personally and by post to the people concerned with a covering letter from the Director of the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait.

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