



News Release:

ICDL to become the Official Partner of Iraq Education and Technology Summit to be held in Dubai

ICDL GCC Foundation, an activist in ICT skills, use and safety for-all and the sole operator of the ICDL Programme across the GCC and Iraq, announced today that it will become the official partner of the forthcoming Iraq Education and Technology Summit (IETS) which will be held in Dubai, UAE on February 23-24, and will share with the concerned participating high-ranking Iraqi government officials ICDL's own experience and best practices in implementing national digital skills initiatives that were carried out over the past decade across the GCC member states.

The ICDL program was introduced to the Arab Region 2001 by UNESCO-UCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organisation – Cairo Office). Through a partnership that formed in 2007 and included ICDL GCC, UNESCO-Iraq Office, ESCWA (Economic & Social Commission for Western Asia), and the Iraqi Ministry of Education, the ICDL program was instituted as a benchmark to spread digital skills among individuals working for the Ministry of Education and other civil ministries in Iraq. The program since then, exponentially grew to gain



the endorsement of the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (MoHESR) as well as the Ministry of Science & Technology (MoST).

The summit is organized by CWI Summits, a leading organizer and producer specializing in summits on Emerging Economies. The event is supported by both MoHESR and MoST with the aim of providing a suitable platform for high ranking government decision makers to meet with international organizations from the private and public sectors that can bring the highest levels of technology, training and management skills through practical and innovative solutions to help improve education in the country.

The Summit will follow an agenda with expert speakers and panels as well as private meetings between prospective organizations and high level government officials looking for suitable providers of solutions and services to help achieve the country's ambitious development plans.

Mr. Jamil Ezzo, Director General of ICDL GCC commented "We made an unwavering decision nearly six years ago to support Iraq in the implementation of comprehensive capacity-building digital skills programs to increase the effective use of technology. Partnering in this Summit does not only reflect on our continued commitment to the Iraqi government and the educational sectors, but also to support its people to be included in the digital future. We are keen to lead on-going efforts to help Iraq achieve its vision and build a world class society and better quality of life for all its citizens."

Other prominent organizations involved in the Iraq Education & Technology Summit include Iraq Prosperity, UNESCO Iraq and the US Department of State. The event will be held at the Hyatt Regency hotel, Dubai on 23 and 24 February.

For more information on IETS Summit, visit <http://www.cwisummits.com/IraqETS>