



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2008

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NEWS RELEASE

Global Organization Recognizes Lebanon for Innovative Advocacy to Advance Internal Audit Profession

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, Fla., USA — The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), a global professional association representing internal auditors around the world, has recognized its IIA–Lebanon institute for innovative activities to advocate the value of internal auditing. IIA–Lebanon was presented with the International Mastering Advocacy Program (IMAP) award at The IIA’s international conference held in San Francisco July 6 – 9, 2008.

“For a relatively new institute, and one that is facing such adversity, IIA-Lebanon has achieved so much in its first eight years,” said IIA Chief Advocacy Officer Dominique Vincenti, CIA. “Despite working in a turbulent political environment, they are striving to advocate for the internal audit profession and improve relationships with key stakeholders in their region.”

To advocate for the internal audit profession, IIA-Lebanon signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lebanese Association of Certified Public Accountants to cooperate on educational and technical issues, as well as to jointly lobby for the betterment of the audit profession in the public and private sectors. They also lobbied the Lebanese Ministry of Economy and Trade and the Insurance Control Commission to establish a new law requiring insurance companies to have an internal department managed by a professional internal auditor.

IIA-Lebanon also worked towards providing support and oversight of Certified Internal Auditor exams and preparation classes; provided support and instructors for the Internal Audit Education Partnership program at the Lebanese American University; regularly offered training courses for the Association of Lebanese Banks; and coordinated with the Lebanon chapter of the Information Systems and Control Association for several educational activities. These advocacy activities, as well as their translation of the profession’s *Standards* into Arabic, has established IIA-Lebanon as a reference body for internal auditors in Lebanon and the Arab world.

As the global voice, acknowledged leader, and chief advocate of the internal audit profession, The IIA created the IMAP award in 2001 to recognize the individual activities of its chapters and institutes in contributing to its global advocacy initiatives.

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The IIA is internationally recognized as a trustworthy guidance-setting body. Serving members in 165 countries, The IIA is the internal audit profession's global voice, chief advocate, recognized authority, acknowledged leader, and principal educator.