



Report of LAS-UNIDIR Symposium on  
***Establishing a WMD Free Zone in the Middle East:  
Global Regimes and Regional Experiences***  
Cairo - 24-25 February 2003

First: The League of Arab States (LAS), in cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) convened a Symposium on ***Establishing a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East: Global Regimes and Regional Experiences*** during the period 24- 25 February 2003 in Cairo. Experts representing thirteen Arab states participating in the symposium, in addition to representatives of the IAEA, UN/DDA, African Union, LAS, UNIDIR and a number of specialized experts.

Second: The participants discussed ten papers that dealt with three main themes:

1. State of the World on WMD regimes.
2. Regional experiences in establishing NWFZs, and an assessment of their strengths and deficiencies.
3. The requirements for and obstacles to establishing a WMDFZ in the Middle East, and its implications for regional security.

Third: The participants strongly urged all states, international organizations and civil society organizations to redouble their efforts to revitalize progress towards peace in the Middle East and the establishment of a WMDFZ in the region, including the need for new creative approaches.

Fourth: The participants commended LAS and UNIDIR for holding the symposium and encouraged further efforts by the organizations to investigate the technical and political aspects of establishing a WMDFZ in the Middle East.