

BIR News

Bureau of International Recycling

The world federation of recycling

Dear BIR Member,

So far, **over 1000 registered participants (more than 800 delegates and 200 accompanying persons) from 55 countries** are likely to turn the upcoming Dubai Convention into one of the most successful BIR events in recent years.

In light of the still difficult economic situation in many countries, recycling industry professionals have recognized the need to increase their networking efforts and to work on new business contacts in order to keep their companies in the game.

We are very pleased that many of the participants are **observers from the Middle East and India**, offering BIR members plenty of new business opportunities in this part of the world.

All **exhibition stands and hospitality booths** are sold out. The most important international machine and equipment manufacturers as well as service providers will be represented and showcase their machinery, advanced technology and know-how.

The keynote speakers invited by the various Divisions and Committees have confirmed their participation (see **Speakers List** on the special 'Dubai' pages on our website www.bir.org), giving a unique insight into the current situation on the markets

Eminent Speaker at the General Assembly

The central keynote speaker of the General Assembly is **Mr Rami Khouri**, an internationally renowned author, journalist and lecturer. Of Palestinian-Jordanian origin, he is a US citizen with residence in Beirut, Amman and Nazareth. In 2006, Mr Khouri received the Pax Christi International Peace Award for his efforts to bring peace and reconciliation to the Middle East.

Mr Khouri is Director of the Issam Fares Institute* as well as Editor-at-large of the Beirut-based Daily Star newspaper, published throughout the Middle East with the International Herald Tribune.

He is author of A View from the Arab World, an internationally syndicated political column. His work has been published in leading international publications, including the Financial Times, the Boston Globe and the Washington Post.

Mr Khouri lectures in media and politics at the University of Chicago and is a senior fellow at the JFK School of Government at Harvard University. He was a visiting scholar at Stanford University in 2006.

** The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB) aims to harness the policy-related research of AUB's internationally respected faculty in order to achieve several goals: to raise the quality of public policy-related debate and decision-making in the Arab World and abroad, to enhance the Arab World's input into international affairs, and to enrich the quality of interaction among scholars, officials and civil society actors in the Middle East and abroad.*

... from the desk of:

Elisabeth Christ

Communications Director

BIR

Avenue Franklin Roosevelt 24

1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 627 57 70, Fax:+32 2 627 57 73

www.bir.org