Proposal to Host MENOG 19 meeting & Peering Forum in Beirut, Lebanon

On behalf of American University of Beirut, Ogero, and Internet Society Lebanon Chapter, it is our pleasure to propose holding MENOG 19 in Beirut Lebanon.

I-   Background

Beirut has hosted a very successful MENOG 5 in October 2009 and it is time MENOG returns to Beirut after an absence of 9 years.

Lebanon is the home of a vibrant technical community with more than 120 LIRs who use RIPE NCC resources. Lebanese engineers underwent successfully several workshops on IPv6, DNSSEC, and BGP routing since MENOG 5. Lebanon is also the home of a vibrant youth community, many are now involved in the entrepreneurship field.

Lebanon is also the home of one of the oldest IXP in the region, the Beirut IX (BIX) since 2007. Peering knowledge has flourished in Lebanon and several IXPs have been established since.

Lebanon is known for its natural beauty and warm welcome to its visitors. VISAs are relatively easier to secure than other Middle East countries. MENOG attendees from North America, Europe, the Middle East, Iran, and Turkey are all welcome. Our visitors keep on coming back due to our way of living and delicious food.

About the hosts:
- American University of Beirut is one of the most prestigious universities in the Middle East. AUB is already engaged with RIPE NCC as a main partner for youth training and routing certification.

- Ogero is the incumbent telecom operator of Lebanon with more than 1.2 Million subscribers. Ogero is leading the country in fiber deployment and in IPv6 adoption. They are partnering with RIPE NCC on establishing the IPv6 task force. Finally, Ogero is leading the rejuvenation of the Beirut IX into a fiber connected Lebanon IX.

- Internet Society Lebanon chapter was established in 2009 and has over 400 members. It is at the heart of the technical community. The chapter successfully organized Lebanon Start Up week-end few months ago.

Together, the hosts represent the strength of a multi-stakeholder approach, reflecting Lebanon's diversity and tradition of democracy.

II-   Date
       MENOG 19 meeting and Peering Forum will take place the first week of April
       (Sunday 30 March – Sunday 7 April)

III-   The Workshops Venue
       The AUB will provide the venue for the 2 workshops that will precede the MENOG 19
       conference. The 2 workshops will be run in parallel. The MENOG secretariat will
       provide the instructors as well as the food/coffee break. We recommend that the 2
       workshops cover IPv6 security and Routing security respectively. Each workshop will
       run for 3 days (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday).
       The AUB will provide 2 adequate rooms for 3 days each. Each room will have the
       capacity to seat 25 people. The rooms can be teaching rooms (classroom style/ rows of
       tables and chairs) and are equipped with Internet Wireless Network connection, Video
       Projector, screen or white board.

IV-   The Conference Venue
       We recommend that the MENOG secretariat selects the hotel of its choice. The Internet
       Society Lebanon Chapter will secure preferential prices at Movenpick or Habtour Grand
       Hotel. RIPE NCC is familiar with the 2 hotel venues which are state of the art and provide
       all the amenities needed to hold such conference with halls that can contain up to 500
       people. We will also provide a list of nearby hotels at prices that can accommodate all
       budgets.
       Ogero will kindly provide good connectivity to the Conference in the order of 200MBPS.
       The bandwidth required will be negotiated with the MENOG secretariat.

V-   The Gala Dinner
       The Gala Dinner will be the only Social Event of the conference and will take place
       Thursday night. Ogero will kindly sponsor the Gala Dinner that will take place in Beirut
       or in Jbeil (Byblos), a historical city just 37km North of Beirut.
       MENOG Secretariat will take care of organizing transportation to/from the Gala Dinner
       venue.

VI-   Summary of the roles and responsibilities
       AUB
       -   2 rooms with capacity of 25 people for 3 days each
       -   Internet connection during the 3 days
       Ogero
       -   Gala Dinner
       -   Internet connection for 200 people at venue location
       -   Assistance with visas if needed
       Internet Society Lebanon Chapter
       -   Selection of hotels for venue and accommodation
       -   Invitations / dissemination to the Lebanese technical community

- Organization of a hackaton after MENOG19 in collaboration with ISOC Global.

VII-   The coordinator for this event will be Miss. Layal Jebran jebran@isoc.org