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الجمعية العربية للعلوم الجنائية والطب الشرعي  
Arab Society for forensic Sciences and forensic Medicine

## 2nd Arab Forensic Science & Forensic Medicine Meeting, ASFSFM 2016: Meeting Report

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One of the main objectives of Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) is to enhance peace, security and justice in Arab societies through education, research, and advanced professional training in various disciplines of security and forensic sciences. NAUSS strives to improve the academic and professional skills of forensic scientists and security personnel to combat crime and terrorism by utilizing all the available tools of modern technology.

NAUSS also realizes the importance of scientific research in the social, economic, and technological development of a society and is, therefore, committed to encouraging and supporting research at every level. NAUSS has given the fields of forensic sciences and forensic medicine a top priority and the attention they deserve. In pursuit of its objectives, and in cooperation with other Arab member organizations, NAUSS launched the Arab Society for Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine (ASFSFM)

in 2013. The Society had the honour of being officially launched by His Royal Highness, Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdul Aziz, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior, Honorary President of the Council of Arab Ministers of Interior and Chairman of the Supreme Council of NAUSS.

The 2nd Arab Forensic Science & Forensic Medicine Meeting (ASFSFM Meeting 2016) was yet another part of the efforts and concern of NAUSS to advance the skills and knowledge of Arab specialists and to facilitate cooperation among forensic scientists and institutions engaged in the practice, education and research of forensic sciences and forensic medicine at various levels.

### Date of the Meeting

08-09 November, 2016

### Location

NAUSS, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### Organizing body

Meeting ASFSFM 2016 was organized by the Arab Society for Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine (ASFSFM), under the guidance and patronage of NAUSS, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### Aims

ASFSFM meeting 2016 had the following main objectives:

- Realizing the need and importance of unifying quality standards in the area of forensic science and forensic medicine in Arab countries.

**Keywords:** Forensic Science, Forensic Medicine, Meeting, ASFSFM 2016.

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Production and hosting by NAUSS

- Forming working groups to design effective quality standards and accreditation programs in various branches and specialized areas of forensic science and forensic medicine.
- Effectively designing and implementing uniform administrative standards in forensic science laboratories in the Arab world.
- Designing effective strategies for gradual implementation of quality standard programs throughout Arab countries.
- Strengthening the role of the ASFSPM in unifying systems and quality standards in Arab forensic science laboratories in collaboration with relevant bodies and specialized institutions.
- Strengthening the academic and professional links between the ASFSPM and forensic science laboratories, forensic medicine and criminal justice departments, security agencies, and other competent authorities working in the field of forensic science, security and justice.
- Encouraging and supporting scientific research to design and develop methodologies to improve the quality of forensic science investigations, education and research in various disciplines of forensic science and forensic medicine in the Arab world.

## Main Topics

Forensic sciences, forensic pathology, criminal justice, criminology, forensic odontology, forensic psychiatry, forensic toxicology, counterfeiting & forgery, forensic dna analysis, forensic chemistry, digital forensics & information technology, forensic anthropology and archaeology, mass disaster and crisis management.

## Scientific and Administrative Supervision

The scientific and administrative supervision of the meeting was conducted by the following committee Dr. Abdulsallam Ahmed Bakdash (Committee Head) Secretary General, the Arab Society for Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine and Dr. Ahmed Saad Goher, Dr. Ahmad Shaaban Kassab, Dr. Hatim Abdulmunim Ahmed, Dr. Hussein Y. Mansour, Dr. Khalid Ibrahim Al-Kurdi, Dr. Khalid Hamid Mustafa, Dr. Khaled Hassan Al-Jaber,

Dr. Sakhr Jaber Al-Qahtani, Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Rababah, Dr. Abdullah Marzouq Al-Otaibi, Mr. Abdul Rauf Chaudhry and Dr. Abdul Wali Mohammed Said Ajlouni.

## Opening Session of the Meeting: November 08, 2016

The opening session of the two-day international Arab Forensic Science & Forensic Medicine Meeting 2016 was attended by several dignitaries including the guest of honor, His Excellency Dr. Jamaan Rashid ben Ragosh, President (NAUSS), Professor Dr. Ali bin Faiz Al Jahani, Vice President for Academic Affairs (NAUSS), Deans and Directors of Colleges, Institutes and Centers at NAUSS, and many high ranking officials from the ministries of Interior and Health.

The opening session was inaugurated by His Excellency Dr. Jamaan Rashid ben Ragosh, who welcomed the participants and highlighted the aims and academic importance of this international scientific meeting. Dr. Ragosh mentioned that teaching, training and research in the field of forensic sciences and forensic medicine provides investigators with the knowledge and skills they need to investigate crime on scientific grounds and establish justice and security in society. He pointed out that this international meeting is part of the University's ongoing efforts to keep forensic science specialists and experts up to date with the latest knowledge and technologies that make them capable of fighting modern crimes that have evolved alongside the development and advancement of technology.

The President of the University further mentioned that NAUSS, through its realization of the importance of education and research in these fields, established the College of Forensic Sciences in 2004. He stressed that the University has given utmost importance to developing forensic sciences and forensic medicine in this region, and has exploited all the available resources to improve the academic and professional skills of experts and specialists in the Arab world.

Dr. Ragosh highlighted the efforts and achievements of the University in these areas, noting that the Studies and Research Center at the University has published more than 48 research works in the fields of forensic science and forensic medicine in both Arabic and English that have become major references for students, practitioners and



researchers.

Speaking about the ASFSFM, he told the audience that the ASFSFM was honored to be inaugurated in 2013 by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdul-Aziz, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Head of the Council of Political and Security Affairs and Minister of Interior of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His Royal Highness is the Chairman of the Supreme Council at NAUSS. The President also told the participants that the ASFSFM headquarters has been placed at NAUSS and this is an evidence of the strong collective efforts of related sectors and organizations to keep pace with the latest developments and to deal with them with the highest degree of professionalism.

Finally, His Excellency Dr. Ragosh expressed his sincere thanks to all those who came from far away to attend this meeting and wished them a pleasant stay in Riyadh. He also hoped that this international meeting will succeed in achieving its objectives.

### Secretary General ASFSFM Speech

The Secretary General of the ASFSFM Dr. Abdulsallam Bakdash welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of this meeting and its aims. He stressed that this event comes within the framework of the University's efforts to develop forensic sciences and forensic medicine in the Arab world. He stressed the need and importance of international cooperation in various fields of security sciences to face recent challenges in crime, especially in the fields of terrorism, human trafficking and modern cross-border crimes. He also provided an overview of the ASFSFM's history, aims and a brief report of the scientific activities of the Society.

### Attendees and Scientific Activities

Over 166 specialists and consultants in the field of forensic sciences and forensic medicine from 16 Arab, European, American, African, and Asian countries attended this international meeting. They included personnel from ministries of health, forensic laboratories, official forensic science and forensic medicine committees, research centers, universities, security-related governmental sectors and international organizations.

In the course of the Meeting, 16 keynote lectures

were delivered covering almost every discipline of forensic science, forensic medicine, modern technology, applications, legislation, and law.

### ASFSFM 2016 Meeting Recommendations

As a result of the academic papers and research work that were presented at the meeting, the useful discussions that took place, and the common consensus of the important role played by the ASFSFM and NAUSS, both at present and in the future, the following important recommendations were reached:

- Unifying systems and working standards in the fields of forensic science and forensic medicine in Arab countries through Arab scientific working Groups.
- Establishing an Arab Institutional Accreditation Program for experts and competent authorities.
- Working on the unification of legal frameworks for criminal prosecution at the Arab level.
- Creating of an Arab Specialist Working Group to conduct and supervise the task of disaster victim identification.
- Publishing special studies and guidelines to improve the working system and standards in the fields of forensic science and forensic medicine in the Arab world.

### Mechanism of Action

- Promoting and strengthening academic and professional cooperation between the ASFSFM and other scientific organizations, both regionally and internationally.
- Signing agreements and memorandums of understandings (MOUs) between ASFSFM, NAUSS and other regional and international organizations and specialized bodies engaged in education, practice, training and research in various disciplines of forensic sciences and forensic medicine.
- Conducting surveys to gain an overview of all of the specialist bodies, institutions, and societies in this field.
- Facilitating communication between institutions specialized in forensic sciences and forensic medicine.



### **Bodies entrusted with the implementation of the recommendations**

- The Arab Society for Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine
- The Conference Administration Department at NAUSS
- Participating Arab bodies and organizations
- The Department of International Cooperation at NAUSS
- The Information Technology Center at NAUSS
- The Security Library at NAUSS
- Naif Arab University Publishing House
- The Studies and Research Center at NAUSS

### **Summary of the ASFSFM 2016 Meeting achievements**

- The International ASFSFM Meeting 2016 successfully explored the latest as well as the future developments in various fields of forensic science and forensic medicine, and discussed their application for the purpose of law and justice.
- The ASFSFM Meeting 2016 intended to keep participants up-to-date with innovative approaches,

recent technologies and new discoveries that will help attendees to be at the forefront of their specialist fields to meet future challenges in the scientific investigation of crime with more precision, excellence and confidence.

- This meeting focused on evaluating the current state of knowledge and skills in different fields of forensic science, both regionally and internationally, and identify areas that need further development to meet the required academic and professional standards for forensic investigative work.
- The ASFSFM Meeting 2016 examined the role of specialist areas of forensic sciences and forensic medicine in fighting crime and actualizing security and justice in all spheres of life, both in the Arab world and beyond.
- This unique gathering of Arab and international forensic scientists and forensic medicine experts discussed the quality of forensic science practice, education and research in the Arab world and designed new and effective strategies to achieve excellence in different areas of security and justice across the globe.

