



MOROCCAN AMERICAN CIRCLE (MAC) FACT SHEET

Mission Statement

MAC is a Moroccan-American organization, founded in 1982, whose mission is to build social, business, educational and cultural bridges, between Morocco and the United States. The primary objectives for which MAC has been created are:

- To develop strong socio-economic and cultural networks;
- To contribute to the development of economic, social & cultural exchanges between Morocco and the US;
- To strengthen and develop relationships between Moroccan and American universities, corporations and NGO's;
- To foster contacts facilitating a deeper mutual understanding of Moroccan and American communities;
- To guide and assist returning Moroccan graduates of American educational institutions, and to increase American students' interests and opportunities in Morocco;
- To encourage Moroccan students to pursue their higher education in the US and facilitate access to American universities

MAC Casablanca Board Members

Moussime (Slim) Kabbaj, *President*
John (Jack) Rusenko, *Vice President*
Meryem Alaoui, *Secretary General*
Mourad Mekouar, *Treasurer*
Said Slassi, *Director, Advisor*
Mehdi Bennani, *Director, Advisor*
Wafaa Chafi Fathi, *Director, Advisor*

MAC Rabat Board Members

Asma El Kasmi, *President*
Paul Johnson, *Vice President*
Ryad Mouline, *Secretary General*
Leila Benchekroun, *Treasurer*
Abdellah Essadik, *Vice Treasurer*
Amine Bensaid, *Director, Advisor*
Karim Chraïbi, *Director, Advisor*

Membership Criteria

Active Membership

Active members include:

- Moroccan citizens with a U.S. University degree;
- Moroccan citizens who have engaged in a professional activity with the U.S.;
- Any American citizen presently living or planning to live in Morocco;

Associate Membership

Associate membership is available for those individuals who meet two of the following criteria:

- Proficiency in English;
- Holding a degree from an English-speaking University;
- Having had professional experience in an English speaking country, in either public or private sectors or civil society.

MAC's Activities and Program Highlights for 2005/2006

MAC is committed to accomplishing its goals in establishing strong ties between Morocco and the United States. In 2005/ 2006, we made progress in the following areas:

- MAC's Website www.mac.ma was launched in March, 2006;
- MAC's Newsletter *On the MAC Point* was launched in December 2005;
- Organized a 2 day Seminar in partnership with AMPA (USA) on "**The Power of Partners: Moroccan-American Bridges**", in March 2006, sponsored in Morocco by ONA, Casablanca Technopark, CMS Energy, FedEx, etc.;
- Hosted Roundtable Events:
 - on "**Rabat: Vision 2010**," in February 2006, hosted by MAC Rabat, in sponsorship with CDG;
 - on "**Enhancing the Value of Human Resources and Social Mobility**," in Casablanca in December 2005, sponsored by SOPRIAM;
 - on "**Moroccan Alumni from U.S. Universities: What is the added value to the Moroccan development?**" in 2005, in partnership with Dar America in Casablanca;
 - on "**Concepts and Practices of Leadership: Moroccan Testimonials**" in 2005 in Casablanca;
- MAC partnered with various organizations in relation with the **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**, including the U.S. Consulate General, AmCham, and Direction du Trésor (Ministry of Finance);
- Organized movie screening events: **Moroccan Modern Cinema**;
- Host periodical **Happy Hour Networking Events** in Casablanca and Rabat.