



## The Beacon for Freedom of Expression Conference 2004



### **H.E. Mrs. Valgerd Svarstad Haugland,** Minister of Culture and Church Affairs

- Highlights of her career include: Secretary-general of the Women's
- Organization of the Christian Democratic Party of Norway;
- Deputy Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
- Member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs
- Minister of Children and Family Affairs
- Chairman of the Christian Democratic Party
- Member of the Storting for Akershus County
- First Deputy Chairman of the Christian Democratic Party
- Deputy member of the Storting for Rogaland County
- Deputy Chairman of the Christian Democratic Youth League
- Deputy Chairman and Chairman of the Council for Research and Development of Expertise in European Affairs
- Member of the Council on lowering the school age
- Member of the Council on Ethics and the Community
- Member of the board, Modum Bads Nervesanatorium
- Member of the Council for the Women's University
- Member of the board, Alva Myrdal Fund; Member of the Christian Democratic Party Strategy Committee.



### **Ismail Serageldin** Director, Library of Alexandria

Ismail Serageldin is Director of the new Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Library of Alexandria, and Distinguished University Professor at Wageningen University in the Netherlands . He was formerly Vice-President of the World Bank for Environmentally Sustainable Development and Chairman of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) at the World Bank. He joined the Bank in 1972 where he designed and managed a broad array of poverty-focused projects in developing countries.

Educated at Cairo University and Harvard University where he earned a Ph.D., Dr. Serageldin is an internationally published author on economic development, human resource issues, the environment, architecture, urbanism, the Arab world, Islam and culture. He has received numerous international awards and honors for his work and civil society efforts.



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### **Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd**

**Judge (former President) of the World Bank's Administrative Tribunal.**

Dr. Aboulmagd received his education at the Faculty of Law at Cairo University, and at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. His academic career includes his tenure as Professor of Public Law at Cairo University, member of the Academy of Islamic Legal Research of Al Azhar University, and he was Dean of the Kuwait University Law School from 1977 to 1979.

Dr. Aboulmagd has held many government positions in Egypt, including Cultural Counselor to the Egyptian Embassy in Washington DC, from 1969 to 1971, Minister of Youth in Egypt from 1972 to 1973, Minister of Information in Egypt from 1973-1975. He has also served as Chair of the Special Panel of Adjudicators, and as Arbitrator in commercial disputes, as well as being Legal and Constitutional Advisor to the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait from 1979 to 1985. He is a well-known Islamic thinker and writer. Dr. Aboulmagd has published books and articles in Arabic and English. His book of Essays *Hiwar la Mowagaha* (Dialogue not Confrontation) bears re-reading in these times of intolerant debate.

### **Mr. M. Sonneland**

**Secretary General, Norwegian Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs**



### **Mr. Gaber Asfour,**

**Secretary General, Egyptian Supreme Council of Culture**

### **David Wardrop**

**Secretary of the UK Friends of the BA**

He is Secretary of the UK Friends of the Alexandria Library which he set up in 1994. His commercial career covered engineering and marketing roles. He has initiated projects for the UK United Nations Association, UNESCO and the United Nations covering issues such as Development in Africa, Education for All, Freedom of Expression, peacekeeping and international law.

He serves as Administrator of *Strategies for Peace*, formerly the *Worldwide Consultative Association of Retired Generals and Admirals*



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which is developing a new Virtual Library for Peace Support Operations.

**Paul Sturges**

**Professor & Deputy Head of Department, Loughborough University.**

His main current areas of interest are legal and ethical issues in information; the African information and library scene; history of British public libraries. Prof. Sturges worked for the Council of Europe on freedom of expression and on library legislation. He has published various papers, conference presentations and two books on policy for public internet access *Public Internet Access in Libraries and Information Services*, Facet Press, 2002, as well as *The Quiet Struggle: information and libraries for the people of Africa*, 2nd edition, Mansell, 1998.

**Abdallah Sobeih,**

**YES Coordinator for MENA.**

**Eugene Schoulgin,**

**PEN Writers in Prison Comm.**

**Salama Ahmed Salama**

**Al Ahram**

**Helge M. Sonneland**

**Sec. Gen. Norwegian Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs:**

**David Wardrop , UK**

**Paul Sturges ( UK )**

**Dept. of Information Science, Loughborough University IFLA/FAIFE**

**Shawky Salem ( Egypt )**

**IFLA Board Member**

**Sa'eda Kilani (Jordan)**

**The Arab Archives Institute**

**Kamel Labidi ( Egypt )**

**IFEX- researcher**

**Prof. Nour Farahat**

**Prof. Hossam Lotfi**



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**Mr. Sayed Yassin**

**Mr. Ali Abu Shadi**



**Mette Newth , (N)**

**Chair of International Steering Committee for Beacon**

Author, illustrator, translator, Mrs. Newth has published 20 novels and picture books for young adults and children that have been translated into 17 languages, in addition to 40 essays and articles on art and society issues. She has received 17 Norwegian, Nordic and International prizes for best book, illustrations or translation since 1974 and Participated in collective and single exhibitions since 1977 in Bologna/ Italy, Tokyo/ Japan, San Diego, USA, main cities of the Nordic countries and main Norwegian cities. She has also been a guest lecturer at colleges and universities in Norway, the Nordic countries and internationally since 1979 on literature and art related subjects.

Since 1976 Mrs. Newth has held the following positions: Chair of the Norwegian Society for Writers of Literature for Children and Juveniles; administrator and thereafter Chair of the Norwegian Council of Artists; Chair of the Norwegian National Council of Reading and Writing; Leader of the Norwegian Artists Organizations joint negotiations with the Norwegian Ministry of Culture on remuneration for copy rights and lending rights. Her professional occupations have been Principal of the National College of Art and Design in Bergen; Administrator of Norwegian Forum for Freedom of Expression; and Principal of the Oslo National College of Art.

**Dr. Mohsen Youssef**

**Senior Advisor for special projects**

**Said Essoulami,**

**Executive Director, CMF MENA**

Director of the Centre for Media Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa, an NGO based in London and Casablanca, Morocco. Dr. Essoulami worked as a head of the MENA program at Article 19 for 11 years and as a journalist at Index on Censorship Magazine for one year. He is also the founder of the Euro-Med Human Rights Network, based in Copenhagen . The center CMF MENA was created in 1998 as a research, training and advocacy centre. It is working, presently, on training media managers in Morocco and on building the first Arab Media Freedom Network which was initiated at the conference "Revitalising media freedom advocacy in the Arab world" which the center organized in Casablanca in January 2004.