

## Press Release

### **Confirming Lebanon on China's Revived Silk Road Strategy "One Belt, One Road in Lebanon: Beijing2Beirut"**

On the occasion of the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Lebanon, Fransabank Group is organizing "One Belt, One Road in Lebanon: Beijing2Beirut project" with the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), the Chinese embassy in Lebanon, as well as other official and business organizations.

Fransabank Group, represented by Messers Adnan and Adel Kassar - the old friends of the Chinese people – will be welcoming in Phoenicia InterContinental Hotel a high level Chinese delegation, headed by Her Excellency Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) President Li Xiaolin, and His Excellency Ambassador Kejian Wang, to celebrate in Beirut.

As firm supporters for China President Xi's "One Belt, One Road strategy", Fransabank Group aims to effectively place Lebanon on China's promising and visionary SilkRoad map, within the "One Belt, One Road" with the goal of attracting Chinese investments to Lebanon and its various productive sectors.

Fransabank Group will start the festivities on Thursday 24 November at 4 pm at UNESCO Palace to launch the book "Hand in Hand for 100 Years: the Stories of Lebanon and China", funded by Fransabank, and commissioned by the Chinese government. Renmin University will then hold a book exhibition at the Lebanese University and donate its impressive collection of books to the Lebanese University.

Later that evening, Fransabank Group will officially launch the Chinese Gourmet Festival at the Phoenicia Intercontinental Hotel, Mosaic Restaurant, in cooperation with Minzu Hotel of the Beijing Tourism Group, whereby Minzu's leading 6 chefs will be serving the Chinese cuisine best recipes from 25 November to 9 December.

On Friday 25 November, Fransabank Group is organizing within the Union of Arab Bank's Annual Banking Conference at Phoenicia Hotel at 9:30 am "The Chinese-Arab Banking Dialogue" session where Chinese finance and banking sector entities will speak about their plans and strategy in projects and financing within the One Belt ,One Road countries.

Adnan and Adel Kassar are leading Fransabank Group's strategic relations with China and in building on their historic and high level relations with China to benefit Lebanon's economic, cultural, tourism, educational, and other sectors. Fransabank Group, on this special occasion, is offering 45 free UnionPay cards – as the first bank to offer Chinese Credit Cards in Lebanon, as well as 4 and 5 free bank transfers to its UnionPay cardholder to and from China respectively.

**End of Press Release**

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