

### **Dr. Mohammad Harajli, Provost, American University of Beirut, Lebanon**

Provost Dr. Mohammad Harajli commenced by welcoming HE Mr. Boutros Harb, HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, and the distinguished guests. He expressed his pleasure to welcome them to the American University of Beirut. Dr. Mohamad Harajli emphasized the importance of these events to the development of communities, and AUB is proud to host the activities of technology, infrastructure, and quality of education. He acknowledged the contribution of ASREN and the EUMEDCONNECT3 project to establish 300 Megabits per second (Mbps) link to the GÉANT Research and Education Networks via ASREN's PoP in London.

He added that the major goal of AUB's strategic plan is to reestablish the universities unique position as world class teaching and research institutions. As an institution that fosters productive dialog and innovation at cross roads of civilisation, thus contributing more effectively to an increasingly globalized and technologically enhanced world.

Dr. Mohammad asserted that AUB will continue it's leading regional role in supporting e-infrastructure for research and education communities in Lebanon and beyond, by supporting the development of the Lebanese Research and Education Network and by providing technical support and assistant to other networks in the region through ASREN.

At the end, he recognized the organizers of the events and HE Mr. Boutros Harb the Minister of Telecommunications for his patronage.