

OMAR ASEM, Samira (Kuwait)

Current employment and position/title:

Principal Research Scientist, Division Director/Food Resources and Marine Sciences Division, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR). Program Director, Management and Supervision of Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Coordinator and Chairperson of the Scientific Committee for the IUCN 2011 Regional Conservation Forum (RCF) Climate Change and Biodiversity. Kuwait, 2–5 May 2011
- Chairperson of the Scientific Committee for the International Conference on Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture and Biodiversity in the Arab Region, Kuwait, 30/11/2010 to 2/12/2010.
- Chairperson of the IUCN National Committee of Kuwait, 2008–2011
- Regional Vice Chair for West Asia (IUCN). April 2009
- External Reviewer to IUCN as a representative of KISR key Member of IUCN, 2007
- IUCN National Coordinator in the State of Kuwait since 2004
- Regional IUCN representative and Chairperson of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research delegate to the IUCN 3rd World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, Thailand, 17–25/11/2004
- Consultant to IUCN in the International Technical Review Committee for Oil Production and Mining Protected Areas. Montréal, Canada. May 3–5, 2002
- Member of the Species Survival Commission (SSC), (IUCN) since 1999
- Observer to the IUCN Congress Meeting. Montreal, Canada 13–23 October 1996
- Member in the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), (IUCN) since 1994

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Samira Omar Asem has more than 37 years experience in management and leadership in R&D at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) related to biodiversity conservation agriculture and environment. Dr Omar attained her Ph.D in Wild Land Resource Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley in 1990, M.Sc in Range Management from the University of California, Berkeley, and B.Sc in Botany and Chemistry from Kuwait University. During her career as Director for the “Food Resources and Marine Sciences Division” at KISR she has been responsible for six programmes namely: Aridland Agriculture Production; Biodiversity for Terrestrial Ecosystem; Food and Nutrition Production; Ecosystem Based Management for Marine; Aquaculture; and Biotechnology. Dr Omar is the Technical Program Director of the Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program awarded by the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC). She is responsible for supervising the implementation of the programme at the government level to ensure proper and transparent implementation of the programme according to the UNCC decisions. Dr Omar has national, regional and international recognitions and has been affiliated to many local and international organizations. She published 30 refereed journal papers; 101 books, proceedings and 103 technical reports. Dr Omar participated in 102 local, regional and international conferences, and provided consultations to local, regional and international organizations. Dr Omar Asem has been the representative of an active member of IUCN and provided support to the IUCN Programme at the local and regional levels.