



ANNOTATED AGENDA

5th Meeting of Working Group 2
on E-Government
and
Administrative Simplification

25 June 2009

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Hosted by the Government of Bahrain

Overview of the meeting

This working group, which met for the first time in Dubai in September 2005, gathers together the most high ranking e-government officials in Arab countries and invites government experts from OECD countries to discuss key policy issues on the e-government agendas of Arab and OECD countries.

The members of the working group also design a plan of activities and provide directions and support for their implementation (in the past, activities included a capacity building seminar on e-procurement, measurement and evaluation of e-government, personalised portals, partnerships and collaboration on e-government, and electronic ID cards).

The working group is chaired by UAE/Dubai and co-chaired by Italy and Korea.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Discuss the impact on and opportunities for e-government in challenging times.
- Provide participants with an update on current activities within the Good Governance for Development in Arab Countries Initiative.
- Inform participants about the preparations for the next Ministerial Meeting and the upcoming progress report on *Modernisation of Public Governance in Arab Countries*.

5th Meeting of Working Group 2 on E-Government and Administrative Simplification

Chair: Dubai, UAE
Co-chairs: Italy and Korea

Agenda

Thursday, 25 June 2009

08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.30	Opening Session
<p>Welcome, opening remarks and introduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mohammed Al Qaed, CEO of the Bahrain eGovernment Authority, Bahrain <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ahmad Bin Humaidan, Director-General, Dubai e-Government, Dubai, UAE <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni, Director-general, Ministry of Simplification and Better Regulation. • Prof. Sung Kun KIM, Department of Business Administration, Chung-Ang University, Korea. <p>Introductory remark by the OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Christian Vergez, Head of the Innovation and Integrity Division, OECD Secretariat. 	
09.30 – 11.30	<p>Session 1</p> <p>E-Government and administrative simplification – an opportunity for change in challenging times?</p>
<p>This session will focus on whether e-government and administrative simplification are seen as opportunities for change in challenging times for many countries around the world due to the current financial and economic crisis.</p> <p>As the use of information and communication technology (ICT) is seen as one of the drivers for economic development, and the use of e-government as the main motor for</p>	

improving government functions and the broader efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector as a whole, the purpose of the session is to explore how different countries have reacted to the current economic environment with regard to e-government development and implementation.

Following the keynote speech, participants are asked to comment and discuss the issue of e-government and administrative simplification in light of their own national experiences with regard to the following questions:

- Is the worldwide financial crisis impacting e-government policies in your country?
- If so, how is it affecting e-government policy as well as the strategic priorities and the funding, planning, and implementation of concrete e-government projects?
- How does your country see e-government investment in a broader economic performance perspective?

Moderator:

- **Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni**, Director-general, Ministry of Simplification and Better Regulation.

Keynote speech:

- **Prof. Jenifer Bremer**, Professor of the American University of Cairo, Egypt.

Tour de Table (max. 10 min per country): Comments and reactions from the floor and short overview of country experiences.

11.30 – 12.00	Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30	Session 2 E-Government in the MENA region

The session will focus on the preparation of the upcoming progress report on *Modernisation of Public Governance in Arab Countries*. The drafting of a progress report was mandated by Steering Committee of the Good Governance for Development (GfD) in Arab Countries Initiative at their last meeting, and its presentation will take place at the next ministerial conference to be held in Marrakech, Morocco, 23 November 2009. The outline of the e-government contribution and the questionnaire used for fact-finding purposes will also be discussed together with a number of country cases from the region.

Moderator:

- **Prof. Sung Kun KIM**, Department of Business Administration, Chung-Ang University, Korea.

Presentations:

- **Mr. Christian Vergez**, Head of the Innovation and Integrity Division, OECD Secretariat
- **Prof. Jonathan Liebenau**, London School of Economics.

Actions required:

Participants are asked to reflect and comment on the presentations, especially through ad hoc presentations of country experiences and specific cases with regard to e-Government.

Background documents:

The presentation slides will be made available to all participants.

13.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 15.30	Session 3: Reporting on past activities and the way forward: Overview of current developments in Arab Countries and discussion of suggested activities on the regional policy dialogue for the biennium 2009-2010. Conclusions.

The objectives of this session are to:

- 1) Provide the opportunity to the OECD Secretariat to inform and update delegates on the major events and activities carried out within the framework of Good Governance for Development (GfD) with a particular focus on e-government and administrative simplification events organised since the last meeting of the Working Group 2.
- 2) Provide the opportunity to Arab delegates to update their colleagues on ongoing activities and current developments in their country in the area of e-government and administrative simplification since the last meeting of Working Group 2.
- 3) Discuss the priority areas for the near future and propose new activities.

This session will also focus on prioritising the activities of the Working Group for the biennium 2009-2010 based on the outcomes of the discussion in the previous sessions and in view of the forthcoming MENA Ministerial Meeting. Participants are invited to indicate the activities (e.g. capacity building seminars, joint learning activities, joint learning studies) that their country would be interested in participating and/or organising in 2009-2010.

- Which of the activities mentioned above would need to be prioritised and could be conducted in the short term (by end of 2009)? Which of them could be scheduled in 2010?
- How will participating countries ensure that resources (internal or through donor organisations) are mobilised and made available to support the implementation of these activities?

Tour de Table (max. 10 min per country): Overview of current developments in participating countries.

Closing remarks:

- **Mr. Ahmad Bin Humaidan**, Director-General, Dubai E-Government, Dubai, UAE, *Chair of Working Group 2.*

- **Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni**, Director-general, Ministry of Simplification and Better Regulation, Italy
- **Prof. Sung Kun KIM**, Department of Business Administration, Chung-Ang University, Korea.
- **Mr. Christian Vergez**, Head of the Innovation and Integrity Division, OECD Secretariat.

Background documents:

The presentations of the OECD Secretariat will be tabled and circulated at the meeting. A short questionnaire on future priorities will be circulated.

15.30

End of Meeting