

**Proposal for a Regional Publication**

**Of the Taskforce on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises**

**"Turning the Page: Towards New Arrangements for State Ownership in the Middle East and North Africa"**

**CONCEPT**

The Taskforce on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises expressed an interest in compiling its discussions and experiences in a regional publication which would highlight national experiences related to improving corporate governance of SOEs. Participants in the Taskforce have received a number of presentations either by national governments, representatives of state-owned companies or academics with experience in this area. These presentations have been documented in summary records of past meetings.

At the last Taskforce meeting held in Cairo on 23-24 June, it was agreed that a regional publication would be of benefit to future efforts to improve the governance and performance of state-owned companies. It would act as a useful reference for members of the Taskforce and other members of the public service working on reforms in the SOE sector. This publication will be unique in summarising the collective experience on SOE governance reform in the region.

It is intended that the publication cover reforms and programmes implemented by governments or individual SOEs over the past ten years, although historical references may be necessary to contextualise recent developments. The publication will comprise a number of chapters analysing relevant developments on a regional level as well as on the national level. The latter may bear on a reform of the overall legal or regulatory framework undertaken by the authorities or an experience particular to an individual SOE.

All governmental and non-governmental participants in the Taskforce are welcome to participate in this project by offering ideas and material to be included in the publication. The intention of the publication is to summarise a variety of experiences from all MENA countries participating in the regional Taskforce. Since the objective of this publication is to share experiences of reform, contributors are welcome to share elements of past or ongoing efforts which were particularly successful, as well as highlight challenges encountered.

**PROPOSED TIMELINES**

Authors interested in contributing a chapter to this publication are invited to contact the OECD Secretariat (Ms. Alissa Koldertsova, [alissa.koldertsova@oecd.org](mailto:alissa.koldertsova@oecd.org), + 33 1 45 24 83 05). Government officials can submit articles either in their individual capacity or on behalf of their Ministry. The objective of this publication is to have a variety of perspectives represented. As such, perspectives from the private sector and the academia will be included.

In terms of the timelines, the aim is to have the structure of the publication finalised by October 2010. Contributors are asked to submit draft chapters to the OECD by 1 February 2011 and final

chapters by 1 April 2011. The publication will then be edited and structured thematically. The OECD reserves the right to make changes to enhance the quality of the overall publication. To facilitate editing this document, authors are asked to submit their contribution in English, if possible. The proposed length of individual chapters is 15-25 pages, chapters should not be shorter than 15 pages and should not exceed 35.

The OECD will be working with the individual chapter authors in order to ensure the consistency of the materials presented. To this end, the OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises (available in English, French and Arabic) may be used as a useful reference, particularly in defining the scope of issues to be covered by this publication. Existing research and materials can be referenced and incorporated.

It is intended that the publication cover a range of issues linked with corporate governance reform in the SOE sector, illustrating policy changes and their impact as well as highlighting individual company case studies. Although the key focus of this publication will be on corporate governance of MENA state-owned enterprises, to the extent relevant, privatisation experiences may also be highlighted. Authors are asked to rely on data to substantiate their conclusions or observations.

The book will be published in English and translated in French and Arabic. It will be distributed widely in the region and in OECD member countries. Through the OECD's Public Affairs Directorate, media will be notified of the release of the book and it is therefore expected to receive coverage in the media sources of the region and beyond. It will also be made available to libraries and research centers.