

**GOOD GOVERNANCE  
FOR DEVELOPMENT  
IN ARAB COUNTRIES  
INITIATIVE**



**AGENDA**

**Steering Group Meeting  
at Technical Level**

**4 JULY 2008**

**OECD CONFERENCE CENTER**

**PARIS, FRANCE**

Under the chairmanship of His Excellency  
Dr. Ahmed Darwish  
Minister of State for Administrative Development  
Arab Republic of Egypt



Ministry of State for  
Administrative Development



The last Steering Group Meeting at Ministerial Level took place on 29 November 2007 in Cairo. During the event, ministers reiterated their strong support to the Good Governance for Development (GfD) in Arab Countries Initiative and defined the strategic orientations for the new phase of implementation (2008-10). During the first semester of 2008 several working group meetings, consultations, and thematic seminars were organised at regional level. As a result of these exchanges, important indications for the future regional activities were provided. The Steering Group now comes together at technical level to discuss and endorse the detailed Programme of Work on the basis of the priorities expressed during the recent regional events.

The Steering Group will discuss the main priorities of the national programmes of reform in Arab countries, the best strategies to support the implementation of reforms and the added value that the GfD Initiative can provide to national policies. The outcomes of the Steering Group Meeting may include concrete proposals for targeted actions to be implemented by the GfD Initiative in a national context i.e. capacity building, peer advice, and joint learning activities.

Moreover, the Steering Group will discuss appropriate strategies to disseminate the progress of reform in the Arab region. Several years of reform implementation in the field of public governance and the judiciary have created a stock of good practices, expertise, and know how about the process of modernisation. The GfD Initiative can play a major role in the analysis and dissemination of this information in order to build useful tools for policy makers, i.e. by facilitating the setting up of benchmarks or policy indicators.

8.30-9.00	<b>Registration</b>
Meeting venue: Room CC 15, OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, Tel.: +33 (0)1 45 24 82 00	
9.00-9.30	<b>Opening Session</b> Moderator: H.E. Dr. Ahmed DARWISH, Minister of State for Administrative Development, Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the GfD Steering Group
<p><b>Opening statements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Aart DE GEUS, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD</li> <li>• Representative of Sweden on behalf of H.E. Mr. Mats RINGBORG, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the OECD</li> <li>• H.E. Mr. Chris HOORNAERT, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the OECD</li> <li>• H.E. Dr. Abed SHAKHANBEH, Head of the Anti-corruption Agency, Jordan</li> <li>• H.E. Dr. Ahmed DARWISH, Minister of State for Administrative Development, Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the GfD Steering Group</li> </ul>	
9.30-11.15	<b>Session 1: Setting Priorities for GfD Regional Activities and Supporting Linkages to National Reform Agenda's (Part I)</b> Moderator: H.E. Dr. Ahmed DARWISH, Minister of State for Administrative Development, Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the GfD Steering Group
<p><b>Objective and structure of the session:</b></p> <p>In this session, the Working Groups will present their draft Programme of Work for 2008-10. They will (a) first give a short overview on the thematic priorities which have been identified by questionnaires and discussed at the Working Group meetings in early 2008 and (b) inform on planned capacity building activities in 2008-10, including concrete proposals for regional seminars, joint learning initiatives and projects (regional networks, regional training and expertise centres).</p> <p><b>A. Presentation of GfD thematic priorities and planned activities at regional level (focus: public sector reform)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity: Mr. Azzeddine DIOURI, Secretary-General, Ministry of Public Sector Modernisation, Morocco</li> <li>• Working Group on E-government and Administrative Simplification: Mr. Abulla AL MAJID, UAE eGovernment Programme Director, Civil Service Bureau, United Arab Emirates</li> <li>• Working Group on the Management of Public Finances: Mr. Hany Kadry DIMIAN, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Egypt</li> <li>• Working Group on Public Service Delivery, PPP, and Regulatory Reform: Mr. Abdellatif HAMAM, Advisor to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Tunisia</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Implementation of reforms at national level: what are the priorities? How GfD can add value to national programmes?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Learning Studies to support reform implementation at national level: Mr. Monkid MESTASSI, Secretary-General, Ministry of Economic and General Affairs, Morocco</li> <li>• Tour de table</li> </ul> <p><b>C. Questions &amp; Answers</b></p>	
11.15-11.45	<b>Coffee break</b>

11.45-13.15	<p><b>Session 1 (continued): Setting Priorities for GfD Regional Activities and Supporting Linkages to National Reform Agenda's (Part II)</b></p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Dr. Abed SHAKHANBEH, Head of the Anti-corruption Agency, Jordan</p>
<p><b>A. Presentation of GfD thematic priorities and planned activities at regional level (focus: anti-corruption, legal and judicial reform)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting UNCAC Implementation and the Arab (anti-corruption) network: H.E. Dr. Abed SHAKHANBEH, Head of the Anti-Corruption Agency, Jordan</li> <li>• UNCAC Self Assessment Tools for measuring progress and benchmarking anti-corruption reform: UNDP Secretariat</li> <li>• Capacity Development for Judges: Mr. Mohamad AL AYOUBI, Representative of the Ministry of Justice, Morocco</li> <li>• Judicial Effectiveness and the Enforcement of Judgments: Mr. Rasheed AL MONIFI, Representative of the Ministry of Justice, Yemen</li> <li>• Judicial Independence and Integrity: Mr. Ali EL MASRI, Representative of the Ministry of Justice, Jordan</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Tour de table: Implementation of reforms at national level: what are the priorities? How GfD can add value to national programmes?</b></p> <p><b>C. Questions &amp; Answers</b></p> <p>Feedback and discussion round on the basis of the presentations and the background documents.</p>	
13.15-15.00	<p><b>Lunch break</b></p>
15.00-16.00	<p><b>Session 2: Strategic issues related to the implementation of the second phase of the GfD Initiative</b></p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Chris HOORNAERT, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the OECD</p>
<p><b>Objective of the session:</b></p> <p>This session will address additional strategic issues related to the implementation of the second phase of the GfD Initiative, in particular, the inclusion of cross-cutting issues in the programme of work and the strategy to disseminate the progress of reform.</p> <p><b>A. Cross-cutting issues</b></p> <p>Cross-cutting issues such as gender, civil society participation, environment, and multilevel governance are critical to achieve the principles of good governance. The discussion will address how these issues can be integrated in the different thematic focus areas.</p> <p><b>B. Presentation of instruments for collecting and disseminating information on the progress of reform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles of a good judiciary as tool for measuring progress and benchmarking of judiciary reform: UNDP Secretariat</li> <li>• Background information on the progress of public governance reform: OECD Secretariat</li> <li>• Questions &amp; Answers</li> </ul>	

<b>16.00-16.30</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
<b>16.30-17.00</b>	<b>Closing session: Chairs Conclusions</b>

The Steering Group Chair and Co-Chair will present the meeting's key conclusions and announce the way forward for the implementation of the detailed Programme of Work, including suggestions of the Steering Group for the mobilisation of resources.

**Speakers:**

- H.E. Dr. Ahmed DARWISH, Minister of State for Administrative Development, Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the GfD Steering Group
- H.E. Mr. Chris HOORNAERT, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the OECD

### **Background Documents**

- Draft Terms of Reference for the GfD Working Groups and Detailed Programme of Work 2008-10
- GfD Programme of Work 2008-2010
- OECD Policy Brief: Peer-Review: A tool for Co-operation and Change
- The Draft Arab Principles of a Good Judiciary: A tool for benchmarking reform progress
- UNCAC Self Assessment Checklist
- Preliminary Analysis of the 2007 Survey on Country Priorities
- GfD Calendar of Events