



**GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT IN ARAB COUNTRIES INITIATIVE
WORKING GROUP IV: PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AND
REGULATORY REFORM**

AGENDA

**REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING SEMINAR
ON
REGULATORY TOOLS AND POLICIES**

15 February 2007

Hotel El Mechtel

Tunis, Tunisia

THURSDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2007

8.30 – 9.00	<i>Registration</i>
9.00 – 9.30	Opening Session of the Regional Capacity-Building Seminar on the Implementation of Regulatory Tools and Policies (Focus Group of the Working Group IV on Regulatory Reform) <i>Moderator: Mr. Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i>
	Opening remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>H.E. Béchir Takari, Minister of Justice and Human Rights, Tunisia</i> ○ <i>Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni, Director Regulatory Simplification Unit, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy. Co-Chair of Working Group IV.</i>
9.30 – 10.00	Session 1: Preconditions for Implementing Regulatory Quality <i>Chair: Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane, Legal and legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia.</i>
	This session will provide an opportunity for Arab countries to present and assess some of the preconditions for implementing regulatory quality.
	Speaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Zouheir Skander, Director General, Centre for Legal and Judicial Studies, Tunisia.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Tharwat Nouredin-Abzakh, Privatisation Manager, Executive Privatisation Commission, Jordan.</i>
	Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regulatory quality implies having a comprehensive regulatory policy, reachable policy objectives, transparent regulatory processes and the use of coordinated regulatory tools. What are the preconditions needed to make this feasible and to encourage reform and improvements?</i> • <i>Is there a process of self-examination to find out which of these elements are not correctly established? What are the challenges to overcome resistance to reform?</i> • <i>What can Arab countries learn from international experience and how can they adapt good practices to their needs?</i>
10.00 – 10.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.30 – 12.30	Session 2: Policies to Improve Regulatory Quality <i>Chair: Mr. Mohamed Lejmi, First President of the Court of Cassation, Tunisia.</i>
	<i>This session is designed to discuss how to promote and ensure high quality regulation. It will particularly discuss issues such as:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Integrating regulatory reform into the policy making process</i> 2) <i>The role of oversight bodies for regulatory reform.</i> 3) <i>Guidelines, Principles and Charters for Regulatory Quality.</i> <p><i>A Charter for Regulatory Quality for the Middle East and North African Region has been agreed by participating Arab countries as a key priority during past activities, and is reflected</i></p>

	<p><i>as such in the GfD Country Action Plans in the field of regulatory reform.</i></p> <p><i>A Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality can provide useful information for those countries in the region interested in (1) integrating principles of good quality regulation into the policy-making process; and (2) moving closer to good international practices. The Charter for Regulatory Quality can create an orderly framework for decision-making that sets out key concepts to guide administrators through the complexities of the design and implementation of an effective and high quality regulatory reform policy. This can be of great help for policy makers when identifying options and targeting priorities.</i></p>
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Panagiotis Karkatsoulis, Policy Advisor/Professor, Ministry of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation, Greece.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Claire Chaubert, Deputy Director, Regulatory and Innovation Directorate, Better Regulation Executive (BRE), Cabinet Office, UK.</i> ○ <i>Mr. José Gerardo Traslosheros Hernández, Minister for Economic Affairs, Trade and Industry, Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the OECD, Ministry of Economy, Mexico.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Mohammad Jaffer Kassim, Consultant & Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Yemen.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Choukri Sader, Magistrate, Department of Legislation and Consultation, Ministry of Justice, Lebanon.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane, Legal and legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i>
	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How do countries integrate successfully regulatory policy and its objectives in the decision and policy making at all levels of government? What are the main obstacles and challenges in this process?</i> • <i>What are the institutional entities taking a leading role in the design and implementation of regulatory policy? How are their relationships with other government institutions coordinated? What are the benefits and losses of having a central oversight body?</i> • <i>How can regulatory general principles lead to high quality regulation? How can they be better adapted to different regulatory situations?</i> • <i>How have countries included international guidelines in their regulatory policy? What are the best means for expanding their use throughout the administration? How does it contribute to capacity-building?</i>
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.15	<p>Session 3: Regulatory Tools and Mechanisms to Improve Regulatory Quality</p> <p>Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)</p> <p><i>Chair: Mr. Choukri Sader, Magistrate, Department of Legislation and Consultation, Ministry of Justice, Lebanon.</i></p>
	<p>This session will focus on RIA as a key tool to ensure high quality regulation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main elements: content and institutional framework. • The importance of public consultation processes and transparency.
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ms. Claire Chaubert, Deputy Director, Regulatory and Innovation Directorate, Better Regulation Executive (BRE), Cabinet Office. UK.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Thomas Ferris, Economist, Ireland.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Panagiotis Karkatsoulis, Policy Advisor/Professor, Ministry of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation, Greece.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Recep Kızılcık, Deputy Director General of Laws of Decrees, Prime Ministry, Turkey.</i>
	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the role of RIA during the policy making process? How can RIA improve regulatory quality? Are there other ways of measuring economic and social effects of regulation?</i> • <i>What are the main benefits of using RIA? What are the lessons learned from countries that have implemented RIA?</i> • <i>At what stage of the regulatory process should RIA be used? How should co-ordination between different government institutions be performed? How can RIA be an effective instrument to show the effects of regulation?</i> • <i>What is the importance of including public consultation into the RIA process? Which other ways exist to solve the lack of reliable data?</i>
15.15 – 15.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.45 – 17.15	<p>Session 4: Regulatory Tools and Mechanisms to Improve Regulatory Quality</p> <p>Simplification Strategies</p> <p><i>Chair: Ms. Zeineb Ben Ammar Mamelouk, President, Tunis El Manar University, Tunisia.</i></p>
	<p>This session will cover different tools used when establishing simplification strategies, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of administrative simplification as part of regulatory quality. • How to include measures to simplify procedures while doing RIA. • Institutional framework for the different simplification tools.
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ms. Dominique de Vos, General Deputy Director, Administrative Simplification Agency, Prime Minister Office, Belgium.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Rahif Hajj-Ali, Senior Policy Analyst, Institutional Development Unit, Ministry of Administrative Reform, Lebanon.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Reem Al-Botmeh, Legal Researcher, Institute of Law, Birzeit University, Palestine.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Ghada Ali Moussa, Coordinator of the International Relations Department, Ministry of State for Administrative Development, Egypt.</i>
	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How can governments better manage complex and overregulated systems? How can governments efficiently identify the main areas of concern? What are the tools used to simplify the regulatory framework and its procedures?</i> • <i>Administrative burdens can be understood as any kind of burdens imposed to citizens, businesses and the public administration. How can governments integrate a comprehensive institutional approach to deal with this issue?</i> • <i>How can RIA contribute to identify measures for administrative simplification and create synergies inside the administration?</i>

17.15 – 17.30	<p>Closing Session: Wrap-Up, Conclusion and Final Debate</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i></p>
	Participants will present and discuss the results and conclusions of the meeting, and draw out the implications for capacity-building.
17.30	<p>Closing remarks by the Chair of Working Group IV of the GfD Initiative</p> <p><i>H.E. Zouhaier M'Dhaffar, Minister delegate to the Prime Minister in charge of civil service and administrative development, Prime Minister's Office, Tunisia.</i></p>
18.00 – 19.00	Official Cocktail hosted by the OECD