



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

AGENDA

**THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP IV
ON
PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND
REGULATORY REFORM**

16 February 2007

Hotel El Mechtel

Tunis, Tunisia

WORKING GROUP IV: PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY REFORM

THURSDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2007

FOCUS GROUP ON REGULATORY REFORM

17.30 – 18.30	Special Drafting Group for the Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality
	This session will allow designated drafting experts to discuss the drafting of the Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality.

FRIDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2007

9.00 – 9.30	<i>Registration</i>
9.30 – 10.00	Opening Session of the Third Regional Meeting of the Working Group IV <i>Moderator: Mr. Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i>
	<i>Opening remarks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane, Legal and legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni, Director Regulatory Simplification Unit, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy. Co-Chair of Working Group IV.</i>
10.00 – 11.00	Session 1: Review of Recent Activities on Public Service Delivery, Public Private Partnership and Regulatory Reform <i>Chair: Mr. Mohammed Abu Zayed, Acting Department Head/Instructor, Birzeit University, Palestine.</i>
	<i>Tour de table</i> - This session will be an opportunity for the members of GfD Working Group IV to report on its recent activities and to identify best practices for the future. It will allow participants to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. report on past activities and share key lessons-learned with other members of the Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Second Special Session of the OECD Working Party on Regulatory Management and Reform in the Framework of the GfD Initiative (Focus Group on Regulatory Reform). 25 April 2006, Paris, France.</i> • <i>Peer-to-Peer Study Visit of Senior Tunisian Officials to Switzerland on Best Practices in Multilingual Legal Drafting and the Training of Jurilinguists. 5-7 November 2006, Bern and Geneva, Switzerland.</i> • <i>Regional Capacity-Building Seminar for Regulatory Quality: Good Practices in Multilingual Legal Drafting & the Training of Jurilinguists, (Focus Group on Regulatory</i>

	<p><i>Reform</i>). 27 November 2006, Tunis, Tunisia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regional capacity-building meeting on Public Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Financing (Joint Task Force Governance and Investment Pillar) 8 November 2006, Istanbul, Turkey.</i> <p>2. discuss how the format and timing of future regional capacity building activities can be improved in order to provide optimal support for reform implementation at the country level</p>
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Nadhir Ben Ammou, Professor, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Tunis El Manar University and Coordinator of the Masters course on Jurilinguists, Tunisia.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Rashid Abdulrahman Ishaq, Director of Recruitment, Civil Service Bureau, Bahrain.</i>
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.30 – 13.00	Session 2: Future Programme of Work for the Working Group IV
	Regulatory Impact Analysis: Guidelines, Regulatory Toolkit and Pilot Studies
	<i>Chair: Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane, Legal and Legislative Advisor to the Government, Tunisia.</i>
	<p>This session is designed to discuss on a very practical level how the introduction and implementation of a RIA can be carried out for a specific law project. The following initiatives of Working Group IV, designed to encourage RIA implementation in the region, will be discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A ‘<i>Policy Brief on Tools to Initiate RIA</i>’ developed to guide this introduction and implementation process will be presented. 2) Participants can envisage possible pilot projects for RIA in their own country, and discuss the operational details of such a project. 3) Partnership projects between Arab and OECD, such as peer-to-peer co-operation or study visits, could be envisaged to facilitate the implementation of the RIA pilot projects at the national level.
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Choukri Sader, Magistrate, Department of Legislation and Consultation, Ministry of Justice, Lebanon.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Thomas Ferris, Economist, Ireland.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Aarne Røvik, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Norway.</i> ○ <i>Mr Aleš Pecka, Advisor, Office of the Government, Czech Republic.</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>Ms. Delia Rodrigo, Policy analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i>
	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the importance of having a reliable guideline to undertake RIA? How can it contribute to change the administrative culture?</i> • <i>In principle there is no general and universal action plan to implement RIA, each case should be adapted to different national characteristics. The toolkit may help in this process. Which institution should be responsible for defining the roadmap? How does the implementation of RIA change the roles of different institutions involved in regulatory</i>

	<p><i>policy?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are the lessons learned from pilot projects in OECD countries? How could they contribute to the Arab countries' experiences?</i> • <i>Based on the experiences of previous projects and the prospects for the new initiatives to come, what are the benefits of implementing a RIA pilot project? How long should be the implementation period and the following phases? What are the different stages?</i>
13.00 – 14.30	<p><i>Official Lunch</i></p> <p><i>Special Drafting Group for the Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality</i></p> <p><i>This session will allow designated drafting experts to discuss the drafting of the Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality.</i></p>
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Session 3: Future Programme of Work for the Working Group IV</p> <p>Regulatory Frameworks for Public Service Delivery and PPPs</p> <p><i>Chair: Mr. Mohammad Jaffer Kassim, Consultant & Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Yemen.</i></p>
	<p>This session will allow participants to discuss and shape future activities in the field of Regulatory Frameworks for Public Service Delivery and PPPs, which has been highlighted as key issue for participating Arab countries during the Initiative.</p> <p>Issues that have been highlighted by Arab countries as a priority and as future possibilities for implementation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sectoral analysis of public service delivery. 2) Institutional design of sectoral regulators. 3) Set of guidelines for implementation of PPPs developed for the MENA region, based on OECD country experiences and good practices.
	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Rahif Hajj-Ali, Senior Policy Analyst, Institutional Development Unit, Ministry of Administrative Reform, Lebanon.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Mohammed Abu Zayed, Acting Department Head/Instructor, Birzeit University, Palestine.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Ali Qassem Saif, Re-engineering coordinator / Director of the Training Centre, Ministry of Civil Service, Yemen.</i> ○ <i>Ms. Tharwat Noureddin-Abzakh, Privatisation Manager, Executive Privatisation Commission, Jordan.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Korkmaz Ilkorur, Director, Ilkorur Advisory Services Ltd, Turkey, BIAC.</i>
	<p>Questions</p> <p><i>Public services are essential not only for social and economic development, but also to attract investment and support economic activity. The right mix of regulations and economic instruments is a challenge, whether supervised by a regulatory agency or a line ministry. The design of the regulatory framework thus is essential and should precede structural reform in these sectors.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the institutional and regulatory policy design for public service delivery such as water and telecommunications? What is the institutional design of the regulatory agency, in a ministry, in an agency? Do regulators participate in any domestic or international networks of regulators?</i> • <i>As public-private-partnerships have been continuously introduced in the last years, are there specific sectors that appear to be most suitable for PPP development in the Middle East and North African region? How do future plans of Arab governments reflect such</i>

	<p><i>possible suitability of certain sectors? How do they plan to adapt regulatory frameworks to the new circumstances?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Which are the lessons so far from the experience of Arab countries with establishing PPPs? Which have been the preconditions for success and what are the major obstacles for establishing PPPs? How are these obstacles being dealt with? How do they cope with the different needs of regions and of social-economic groups, including vulnerable groups?</i>
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16.30 – 18.00	<p>Closing Session: Future Programme of Work for the Working Group IV</p> <p><i>Moderator: Josef Konvitz, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This session will be an opportunity for members of the GfD Working Group IV to discuss future work based on the review of recent activities, covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) regional capacity-building activities on regional priority themes; b) peer-to-peer co-operation & partnership projects among Arab and OECD countries at the country level; c) indicators and monitoring tools for PPPs, Public Service Delivery and Regulatory Reform • Wrap-Up of the Third Regional Meeting of the Working Group IV (Draft Regional Charter for Regulatory Quality, Regulatory Frameworks for Public Service Delivery and PPPs, and Regulatory Impact Analysis). • Next Steps for Working Group IV and the GfD Initiative.
	<p>Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ms. Fiorenza Barazzoni, Director Regulatory Simplification Unit, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy. Co-Chair of Working Group IV.</i> ○ <i>Mr. Martin Forst, Senior Administrator, General Coordinator of the GfD Initiative, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.</i>
20.00	<p>Official Dinner hosted by the</p> <p><i>Centre for Legal and Judiciary Studies, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Tunisia.</i></p>