



**Good Governance for Development
(GfD)
in Arab Countries**

**1st Meeting of the Thematic Working Group III on
Public Governance of Finance**

1-3 October 2005

Cairo, Egypt

AGENDA

Day 1: Saturday, 1 October 2005

2:00 - 2: 30 pm **Opening Session, Welcoming of delegation and introductory remarks**

Keynote Speakers:

H.E. Dr. Youssef Boutros Ghali, Minister of Finance, Egypt

H.E. Dr. Ahmed Darwish, Minister of State for Administrative Development, Egypt.

GfD Introductory Remarks: Mrs. Odile Sallard (OECD), Mr. Antonio Vigilante (UNDP) and Dr. Ragaa Makharita (UNDP)

2:30 - 3: 30 pm **Policy statement, objectives of Working Group III and purposes of this first meeting.**

Led by Mr. Hany Dimian, Chair. Mr. Helmer Vossers & Mr. Michael Casella, Co-Chairs.

This session will bring the participants up to date on the Working Group tasks and role within the Good Governance for Development in Arab Countries Program launched on February 8, 2005 at the Dead Sea Meeting (Mr. Dimian's presentation). Review, discussion and adoption of the agenda.

Document: Initiative for Good Governance for Development in The Arab Countries (GfD)

Thematic Group III on Governance of Public Finance, "*Policy Statement and Synthesis of Panel Discussions*"

3:30 – 4:00 pm ***Coffee Break***

4:00 – 5:45 pm **Participants Proposals**

Participants will offer brief statements on the present priorities and initiatives for change to financial governance in their respective countries.

7:00 – 9:30 pm ***Reception hosted by the Government of Egypt***

Day 2: Sunday, 2 October 2005

9:30 – 11:00 am **OECD experience in facilitating partnership between countries in financial governance and its implications for WG III. Review of general problems hindering fiscal policy development and governance in WG III members.**

Led by Mr. François Lacasse, Chair. Mr. Helmer Vossers & Mr. Michael Casella, Co-Chairs.

11:00 – 11:30 am ***Coffee Break***

12:00 – 1:30 pm	<p>Review of presently available basic information on participating countries. Discussion of information needs and priorities of WG III in view of the questionnaire distributed and of the basic data now publicly available.</p> <p>Document: “Questionnaire on financial governance institutions and budgetary issues”.</p>
1:30 – 3:30 pm	Lunch
3:30 – 4:15 pm	<p>Recent major experiences in financial governance reforms</p> <p>Budget laws in Slovenia - Mr. Bojan Pogacar.</p>
4:15 – 5:30 pm	<p>State of Public Finance Management in some Arabic countries: presentation by Mr. José Leandro / Mrs. Agnieszka Skuratowicz, European Union.</p> <p>Tour de Table</p> <p>Discussion of the state of public financial management in Arabic countries.</p> <p>Chair: Mrs. Manal Hinnawi.</p>

Day 3: Monday, 3 October 2005

9:30 – 10:45 am	<p>Working Group III on Governance of Public Finance: discussions and decisions on operational objectives, modus operandi, deliverables, and timing of actions.</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Hany Dimian. Mr. Helmer Vossers & Mr. Michael Casella, Co-Chairs.</p>
10:45 – 11:15 am	Coffee Break
11:15 - 12:00 noon	<p>Concluding Remarks of the Session</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Hany Dimian. Mr. Helmer Vossers & Mr. Michael Casella Co-Chairs.</p>