

Draft Meeting Agenda

MENA-OECD Enterprise Financing Network Launch Meeting

Date

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2006

Organised by

MENA-OECD Investment Programme

Hosted by

MENA Investment Center

Venue

MENA Investment Center, Radisson Diplomat Hotel,
Manama, Bahrain

MENA-OECD Enterprise Financing Network

Objectives

This meeting will launch the MENA-OECD Enterprise Financing Network, which will serve as a platform for improving the regulatory conditions for financing entrepreneurship. The Network is organized within the framework of the MENA-OECD Investment Program as a forum for exchange of views and experience between MENA and OECD business and government representatives.

The Network **aims to foster financing of entrepreneurship** in the region by:

- Creating a platform to connect entrepreneurs, financiers and government regulators
- Providing avenues for private sector participants to express their views on investment policy reforms relevant to financing of entrepreneurship

The meeting will be informal. It is expected to produce proposals for future action.

Participants

Participants of the meeting will include private sector participants, private equity firms, and regulators from both MENA and OECD countries.

Documentation

The relevant meeting documents together with a more detailed agenda will be sent to participants in advance of the meeting. For information about the Programme and the conclusions of the Ministerial meeting please visit our website:

www.oecd.org/mena/investment.

Meeting Chairs:

Mr. Rainer Geiger, Director, MENA-OECD Investment Program

Dr. Zakaria Hejrez, Deputy Chief Executive, Economic Development Board, MENA Investment Center

09:30 – 10:00 Opening Session

Opening Remarks by:

- **Mr. Rainer Geiger**, Deputy-Director, Department for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD
- **Dr. Zakaria Hejrez**, Deputy Chief Executive, Economic Development Board, MENA Investment Center

10:00 – 10:30 MENA-OECD Investment Program – Private Sector Input for Investment Policy

The purpose of this session is to introduce and provide an update on the relevant activities of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme including the private sector work..

Introduction to the MENA-OECD Business Network and to the Financial Sector Development Activities of the Programme

- **Mr. Alexander Böhmer**, Co-ordinator, MENA-OECD Investment Programme

Engagement of the Private Sector in the Programme

- **Mr. Riad Al-Khouri** Director Middle East Business Associates (MEBA), Arab Business Council

10:30- 13:00 Enterprise Financing Networks – the Experience of Partners

The purpose of this session is to provide an opportunity for partners to share and discuss their experience in the area of enterprise financing in the region, to highlight the challenges that enterprises face in obtaining financing, and to discuss how regional networks can be strengthened. Discussants will be, amongst others:

- **Mr. Victor Zakharian**, Chief, Coordination Unit, Investment and Technology Promotion Offices
- **Mr. Hashim Hussein**, Head, UNIDO Investment and Promotion Office, Bahrain
- **Mr. Zafar Siddiqi**, Chairman and CEO, CNBC Arabia
- **Mr. Charles Kovacs**, BIAC (Vice Chairman of the Supervisory Board)
- **Mr. Abdullah Al-Subyani**, President, Gulf Venture Capital Association, AKEA
- **Mr. Mahmood Panjwani**, General Partner, Minah Ventures
- **Dr. Samir Hamrouni**, Manager, Arab Science and Technology Foundation

- **Dr. Nahed Taher**, Founder and CEO, Gulf One Investment Bank
- **Dr. Paris Kokorotsikos**, Chairman and CEO, Euroconsult
- **Mr. James Greenberg**, Chairman, DevCorp International
- **Mrs. Audra Shallal**, Managing Director Boss Consulting/Femmes Business Angels

13:00 – 15:00 **Lunch**

15:00 - 18:00 **MENA-OECD Enterprise Financing Network – Identifying the Value Added**

The purpose of this session will be to allow participants to provide input in the work programme of the MENA-OECD Enterprise Financing Network. The specific objectives will be to:

- Define prospects and competitive advantages for enterprise finance in the MENA region;
- Identify key regulatory challenges for PE/VC firms and young entrepreneurs in the MENA region;
- Bring together financiers and entrepreneurs to facilitate identification of specific business opportunities;
- Engage investment promotion agencies in support for enterprise financing activities.

20:00 **Dinner - hosted by TAIB Bank of Bahrain**

Contact persons

Host: MENA Investment Center

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