



DRAFT AGENDA

MENA-OECD Business Integrity Network

Institutionalising public-private dialogue to fight against corruption in the MENA region

29 March 2018, 9.00 – 17.30

CC 9, OECD Conference Centre

2, rue André Pascal 75116

Paris, France

Institutionalising public private dialogue to fight against corruption in the MENA region: better meet expectations

Corruption is a complex social, political and economic phenomenon that affects all countries. Corruption is an offence which has the potential to affect multiple sectors and which is very difficult, complex in nature and not easy to overcome. Confronting the challenges presented by corruption requires more practical mechanisms and strategies accompanied by strong legal and professional institutional frameworks. It also requires public and private sectors to interact and join their actions and perspectives. In the MENA region in particular, there is a clear demand for building stronger anti-corruption frameworks and facilitate tri-partite (public, private, civil society) oversight and ownership of anti-corruption efforts.

On 29 March 2017, the MENA-OECD Business Integrity Network (MOBIN) brought together over 100 stakeholders from MENA and OECD economies to discuss the role of Business Associations and the Fight against Corruption in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Stakeholders identified a number of good practices and tools to level the playing field. Also, fostering effective and transparent public-private dialogue is key to improving the effectiveness of anti-corruption strategies. In particular, it appears crucial to build institutional frameworks in which the public sector can meet the private sector and other stakeholders. They also emphasised that creating a culture of integrity can take a long time, and needs financial resources, training, and awareness.

Building on the outcome of the last year discussions the MENA-OECD Business Integrity Network will bring together top anti-corruption policy-makers and practitioners from MENA, OECD and non-OECD countries, to discuss initiatives and instruments aimed at strengthening public and private dialogue in combating corruption. Speakers will address the very importance of joining forces against corruption, why capacity building is needed and explore how the current gap can be addressed in the MENA region. The aim of this meeting will be to take stock of the concepts of public-private dialogue and collective actions by looking at experiences and initiatives currently under way around the world; to inform practitioners of challenges and outcomes, facilitate exchanges between actors and to identify areas for future work and potential collaboration.

Background information

Created at the request of MENA countries in 2005, **the MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Competitiveness for Development** seeks to strengthen the region's economic and governance foundations to provide a basis for development and help MENA economies design and implement policy reforms.

The **MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme** (the Programme) as one of the two pillars of the Initiative, is a strategic partnership between MENA and OECD countries to share knowledge, expertise and good practices. It aims at contributing to the development of inclusive, sustainable and competitive economies across the Middle East and North Africa. The Programme fosters co-ordination between different stakeholders committed to improving the living standards of MENA citizens: local and national governments, international and regional organisations, multilateral initiatives, civil society and the private sector representatives.

In the framework of the **MENA-OECD Business Integrity Network**, the Programme aims to

- Support the convergence of MENA regulatory frameworks and MENA businesses with internationally-recognised integrity norms, standards and best practices ;
- Strengthen international cooperation for law enforcement (i.e. detection, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases) through exchange of information and mutual legal assistance ;
- Provide an effective platform for public-private dialogue, for peer-learning and sharing of tools and best practices.

The MENA-OECD Business Integrity Network has operated as a bridge between the OECD and the MENA region since 2011. It has held events for practitioners and policy makers on issues related to anti-corruption integrity systems, effective enforcement methods and the adoption of robust national legal and institutional frameworks against corruption and foreign bribery.

The **OECD Anti-Bribery Convention** establishes legally binding standards to criminalise bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions and provides for a host of related measures that make this effective. It is the first and only international anti-corruption instrument focused on the 'supply side' of the bribery transaction. The Convention itself establishes an open-ended, peer-driven monitoring mechanism to ensure the thorough implementation of the international obligations that countries have taken on under the Convention. This monitoring is carried out by the **OECD Working Group on Bribery**. The country monitoring reports contain recommendations formed from rigorous examinations of each country.

Currently, no MENA country is a party to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention. However, the OECD Working Group on Bribery has agreed a Global Relations Strategy that provides a framework for non-OECD Members to participate in its work. In that context, the Working Group also contributes to OECD initiatives in the MENA region and has entered into a dialogue with certain MENA countries on issues related to corruption and public and private sector integrity, including within the framework of the MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Investment for Development.

The OECD Anti-Corruption and the OECD Global Relations Directorate are pleased to jointly organise this meeting to promote the institutionalisation of the public private dialogue to fight against corruption in the MENA region.

08:30 Registration and welcome coffee

09:00 – 09:20 **Opening Remarks**

Speakers

- **Andreas Schaal**, Director OECD Global Relations and OECD G20 Sous Sherpa
- **Mathilde Mesnard**, Deputy Director, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

9:20 – 9:30 Participants picture

09:30 – 10:30 **Session 1. Anti-corruption public-private dialogue: when international standards translate into action**

Objectives

Strengthening public-private dialogue to combat corruption is a key asset to help governments learn about the private sector's needs and adjust their policies accordingly, while simultaneously enabling the private sector to be better informed about the government's anticorruption policies and orientations. It can ultimately contribute to enhancing their capacity to reduce the risk of corruption. This session will consider the varied and evolving concepts and forms of anticorruption public-private dialogue and collective actions. It will further explore existing implementation processes and initiatives and how they can impact the fight against corruption.

Moderator

Amina Figuigui, Co-Chair of Mobin, Vice-Chair of the Ethics and Good Governance Commission, General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM)

Keynote speech

- **Patrick Moulette**, Head, Anti-Corruption Division, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

How the OECD Anti-bribery Convention and related instruments have influenced the public private dialogue in fighting corruption over the last 20 years and what are the good practices in OECD countries?

Speakers

- **Arkan El-Seblani**, Project Manager & Chief Technical Advisor, Anti-Corruption Programme in the Arab States, UNDP
- **Gemma Aiolfi**, Head of Compliance and Corporate Governance / Collective Action, Basel Institute on Governance

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:30 **Session 2. From knowledge to practice: institutionalising public-private dialogue to develop anticorruption policies and build capacity**

Objectives

This how-to session will provide a distillation of experiences in anticorruption public-private dialogue institutionalisation drawn from initiatives in several countries, with emphasis on failures, lessons learnt, challenges and valuable outcomes. In particular, panellists will address institutional frameworks initiatives in which the private sector stakeholders can participate and effectively contribute to the decision-making process in anticorruption matters, but also private sector consultations mechanisms and capacity building joint initiatives. Ultimately, this session is intended to identify good practices that could be relevant and transferred in the MENA region.

Moderator	Drago Kos, Co-Chair of Mobin, Chair of the OECD Working Group on Bribery
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ahmed Laamoumri, Secretary General, Ministry of Reform of the Administration and Civil Service of Morocco • Majdi Hassen, Executive Director, Institut Arabe des Chefs d'Entreprises (IACE) • Gabriel Cifuentes Ghidini, Head, Colombian Secretariat of Transparency • Emmanuel Farhat, Senior International Affairs Officer, French Anti-Corruption Agency • Anne Rivera, Head of Compliance Office and Competence Center for Contracts and Public Procurement, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Switzerland <p>Testimony from the floor and discussions</p>
12:30 – 12:45	Presentation of the OECD-MENA Questionnaire in support of a public-private dialogue
Speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola Ehlermann, Head of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness programme, OECD Global Relations Secretariat <p><i>Presentation of the scope and objective of the OECD-MENA Survey</i></p>
12:45 – 14:30	Lunch break

14:30 – 17:15 **Session 3. Anti-corruption collective actions: Experience, challenges and outcomes**

<p>Objectives</p>	<p>In this session, anti-corruption collective actions leaders will provide examples of existing initiatives and their related tools, address the possible challenges encountered and describe the effective outcome of their collective action. Panellists will further distill ideas and techniques from best practices, offering a selection of valuable insights into how practitioners can avoid common pitfalls. Participants will gain an understanding of achievement of effective cooperative anti-corruption efforts between private sector, authorities and civil society that foster anticorruption practices in specific sectors. The purpose of this session is to share experiences with a MENA public and private sector audience to inspire collective actions and provide guidance for participants seeking to engage in their own sectoral and multi-industry initiatives.</p>
<p>Co-Moderators</p>	<p>Gemma Aiolfi, Head of Compliance and Corporate Governance / Collective Action, Basel Institute on Governance</p> <p>Qusay Salama, Project Director, Integrity Network Initiative, Egyptian Junior Business Association</p>
<p>Speakers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angie Farrag-Thibault, Director, BSR Collaborative Initiatives, Maritime Anticorruption Network Senior Advisor • Amina Figuigui, Co-Chair of Mobin, Vice-Chair of the Ethics and Good Governance Commission, General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) • Qusay Salama, Project Director, Integrity Network Initiative, Egyptian Junior Business Association • Gemma Aiolfi, Head of Compliance and Corporate Governance / Collective Action, Basel Institute on Governance • Esteban Arribas Reyes, Political Science Professor, University of Alcalá, Spain, Independent Consultant, and Principal Investigator, Transparency International Spain • Francois Vincke, Lawyer, Head of Anti-Corruption ICC - Paris, Belgium • Philippe Van Gils, Director Illicit Trade Prevention Africa & PMI Duty Free, Philip Morris International Management SA • Representative from the Trade Unions (TBC) <p>Testimony from the floor and discussions</p> <p>Coffee break</p>
<p>15:45 - 16:15</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>

17:15 – 17:30 **Closing remarks**

<p>Speakers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amina Figuigui, Co-Chair of Mobin, Vice-Chair of the Ethics and Good Governance Commission, General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) <p><i>Highlights of the day, follow-ups and next steps.</i></p>
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References

General information

- AfDB/OECD (2016), "[Anti-Bribery Policy and Compliance Guidance for African Companies](#)"
- OECD (2016), "[Committing to Effective Whistle-blower Protection](#)"
- OECD (2015), "[G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance](#)"
- OECD (2014), "Strengthening Business Integrity in Small and Medium Enterprises in the Middle East and North Africa"
- OECD (2014), "[Foreign Bribery Report: An Analysis of the Crime of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials](#)"
- International Chamber of Commerce (2011), "[ICC Rules on Combating Corruption](#)"
- League of Arab States (2010), "[Arab Anti-Corruption Convention](#)"
- OECD (2010), "[Anti-corruption Ethics and Compliance Handbook for Business](#)"
- OECD (2010), "[Good Practice Guidance on Internal Controls, Ethics, and Compliance](#)"
- OECD (2009), "[Recommendation of the Council for Further Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions](#)"
- UN (2004), "[The United Nations Convention on Anti-Corruption \(UNCAC\)](#)"
- African Union (2003), "[African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption](#)"
- [UNDP in the Arab States](#)

Information about collective actions and other initiatives

- [Basel Institute on Governance and Collective Actions](#)
- [Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc](#)
- [Egyptian Junior Business Association](#)
- [Maritime Anti-Corruption Network](#)
- [The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD](#)
- [The Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD](#)
- [Transparency International](#)
- [United Nations Global Compact Anti-Corruption Collective Action](#)

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