Fifth Regional Meeting of the GfD Working Group IV on Regulatory Reform, Public Private Partnerships and Public Service Delivery

Capacity Building Seminar “Promoting Expertise in Regulatory Management”

AGENDA

19-20 May 2009
Tunis, Tunisia
Background Information

The Good Governance for Development (GfD) in Arab Countries Initiative aims at modernising public governance in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The Working Group (WG) IV focuses on Public Service Delivery, Public Private Partnerships and Regulatory Reform. This WG is chaired by Tunisia and co-chaired by Canada, Italy and Netherlands (For more information please visit www.oecd.org/mena/governance).

The Fifth Regional Meeting of the GfD Working Group IV will be held back-to-back with the capacity building seminar on “Promoting Expertise in Regulatory Management”. In the framework of this event, the Tunisian authorities will officially launch the Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality (RCERQ). The structure, objectives and programme of activities in this centre will be discussed with delegates to the Working Group IV.

Objectives of the Fifth Regional Meeting of the GfD Working Group IV

1. Analyse the impact of the economic and financial crisis on the reform programs of the participating countries and the contribution of regulatory policy in improving the economic situation.
2. Analyse and discuss the progress on law drafting capacities in Arab countries.
3. Update on the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting to take place in November 2009 and discuss the contribution from the Working Group IV to the Ministerial statement and recommendations.
4. Discuss activities organised in the framework of the WG IV and agree on general guidelines for the programme of work ahead.

Objectives of the Capacity Building Seminar on “Promoting Expertise in Regulatory Management”

The aim of the seminar is to build capacities on law making in the Arab countries through an analysis of institutions promoting expertise in regulatory management. The goal of these institutions should be to promote the regulatory quality by enhancing clarity, transparency, predictability, efficiency, effectiveness and enforceability. This event will provide a forum to discuss how OECD and Arab countries have strengthened their institutional capacities to promote better regulatory policies.

Launching of the Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality (RCERQ)

The Tunisian government, in co-operation with OECD, is launching the Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality (RCERQ). The GfD Ministerial Meeting which took place in Cairo in November 2007 supported the establishment of the RCERQ that could substantially contribute to the activities of the Working Group IV. This event will provide an opportunity to Working Group IV delegates to review progress, assist in defining the institutional structure and objectives of the RCERQ, and discuss on the programme of training activities which include pilot-projects in 2009-10 with a regional dimension.
Fifth Regional Meeting of the GfD Working Group IV on Public Service Delivery, Public Private Partnerships and Regulatory Reform

First day – Tuesday, 19 May 2009

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Opening Remarks:
- Chair of the Good Governance for Development (GfD) Working Group IV on Public Service Delivery, Public-Private Partnerships and Regulatory Reform:
  - **H.E. Mr. Zouhair M’Dhaffar**, Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister, Tunisia.
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mr. Benoit Tourcotte**, Director, Centre of Regulatory Expertise, Regulatory Affairs, Treasury Board of Secretariat, Canada.
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mrs. Fiorenza Barazzoni**, Director General, Unity for Simplification and Quality Regulation, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy.
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mr. Jeroen Nijland**, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Netherlands.
- OECD Secretariat, Governance MENA Programme:
  - **Mr. Josef Konvitz**, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 – 12.00 Session 1. Regulatory Policy Contribution to the Improvement of the Economic Environment

Chair: **Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane**, Juridical Counsellor, Prime Ministry, Tunisia.

The global economic situation recalls the importance of sound regulatory frameworks in ensuring well functioning markets and a balanced economic growth. The governments of all countries are at a critical time to respond to the financial crisis and the slowdown in the global economy. Smarter and better regulation is central to the debate on how to promote efficient market mechanisms and at the same time provide the needed regulatory role to governments. This session is an opportunity to share proposals between MENA and OECD countries and identify key elements to address the crisis by improving regulatory management.

Key note speeches:
- **Mr. Josef Konvitz**, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.
- **Mr. Mohamed Kolsi**, President, Council of the Competition, Tunisia.

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| 12.00 – 13.00 | Session 2. Work Programme for 2009-10 and contribution of the Working Group IV to the GfD Ministerial Meeting | Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Director Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Netherlands. | This session offers an opportunity to review the preparation of the GfD Ministerial Meeting in November 2009 and discuss the Working Group IV’s contribution to the GfD Ministerial statement and recommendations. The discussion will include a debate on activities lately organised by the Working Group IV and a definition of general guidelines for the future programme of work.  

**Speakers:**  
- **Mr. Carlos Conde**, Programme Coordinator, OECD-MENA Governance Programme, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.  
- **Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane**, Juridical Counsellor, Prime Ministry, Tunisia. |
| 13.00 – 14.30 | Lunch offered by the Tunisian Centre of Legal and Juridical Studies |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                            |
| 14.30 – 15.45 | Session 3. Experiences in the MENA Region on Improving Law Drafting Capacities                     | Mrs. Fiorenza Barazzoni, Director General, Unity for Simplification and Quality Regulation, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy. | The development of skills for legal drafters is essential to promote regulatory quality. This session will provide ground for discussion on how capacities have been built in the MENA region to improve law drafting through training initiatives and the development of guidelines.  

**Speakers:**  
- **Mr. Alaa Eldin Kotb**, Legal Advisor, Vice-President of the State Council, Egypt.  
- **Mr. Abdellatif Najdawi**, Secretary General Assistant, Legislation and Opinion Bureau, Prime Ministry, Jordan.  
- **Mr. Ali Abu Diak**, Deputy Assistant for Legal and Professional Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Palestinian National Authority.  
- **Mr. Jacques Fournier**, State Councilor Emeritus, France.  
- **Mr. Pedro Andres-Amo**, Policy Analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, OECD. |
| 15.45 – 16.15 | Coffee break |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                            |
| 16.15 – 17.30 | Session 4. Launching of the Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality (RCERQ)          | Mr. Benoit Tourcotte, Director, Centre of Regulatory Expertise, Regulatory Affairs, Treasury Board of Secretariat, Canada. | This session aims to analyse the conditions for success for the Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality (RCERQ). The Working Group IV contribution to the RCERQ shall help this institution to become a reference in the improvement of regulatory quality in the MENA region.  

**Presentation of the regional study visit to Canada and its results**  
- **Mrs. Mejda Ben Jaafar**, President, Research Unit, Centre of Legal and Juridical Studies, Tunisia.  
- **Mr. Alaa Eldin Kotb**, Legal Advisor, Vice-President of the State Council, Egypt.  
- **Mr. Zouhair Skandar**, General Director, Centre of Legal and Juridical Studies, Tunisia.  

**Presentation of the Strategy for the Regional Centre and the support from the Tunisian Centre of Legal and Juridical Studies**  
- Objectives and activities  
- Governance structure  
- Project-pilot for 2009-10  

**Tour de table and discussion**
## Capacity Building Seminar “Promoting Expertise in the Regulatory Management”

### Second day – Wednesday, 20 May 2009

### Session 1. Regulatory Management Institutions: Centres of Expertise

**Chair:** Mr. Alaa Eldin Kotb, Legal Advisor, Vice-President of the State Council, Egypt.

This session is intended to present various institutions established to promote expertise in regulatory management. These centers are positioned to play a leading role in the improvement and monitor of regulatory quality:

- National centres of expertise
- International co-operation promoting regulatory quality
- Advocacy for regulatory management and reform
- Technical assistance and advice

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Chris Moll**, Director, European Academy for Law and Legislation, Netherlands.
- **Mr. Fayez Bikerat**, Senior Researcher and Manager, Institute of Law, Birzeit University, Palestinian National Authority.
- **Mr. Benoit Turcotte**, Director, Centre of Regulatory Expertise, Regulatory Affairs Sector, Treasury Board of Secretariat, Canada.
- **Mrs. Fiorenza Barazzoni**, Director General, Unity for Simplification and Quality Regulation, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy.

### Coffee break

**Session 2. Tools to Improve Regulatory Quality**

**Chair:** Mr. Ali Abou Diak, Deputy Assistant for Legal and Professional Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Palestinian National Authority.

Instruments and mechanisms aiming at improving new and existing legislation promote regulatory quality. In addition to a comprehensive approach to legal and technical expertise in different government institutions, it is essential to monitor quality and ensure accessibility and transparency of rules.

This session aims at exploring instruments applied in different countries to enhance regulatory quality through:

- Linking legal and technical expertise in technical ministries
- Oversight and quality control at the core of government
- Improving accessibility and transparency
- Promoting trainings and guidelines for law-drafting
- Introduction of elements of inclusiveness in the analysis of the regulatory impact

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Jacques Fournier**, State Councilor Emeritus, France.
- **Mr. Sherif Fawzi Abdel Gawad**, Director of Operations, ERRADA – Egyptian Regulatory Reform and Development Activity, Egypt.
- **Mr. Panagiotis Karkatsoulis**, Counsellor/Professor, Hellenic Ministry of the Interior, Greece.
- **Mr. Ridha Fraoua**, Chef of the Legislation Unit, Federal Office of Justice, Switzerland.
- **Mr. Salih Arikan**, Expert, Legislation Development and Publication, Prime Ministry Prime Ministry, Turkey.
### Session 3. El Manar University Degree for Jurilinguists: Implementation and next steps

**Chair:** Mr. Zouhair Skandar, General Director, Centre of Legal and Juridical Studies, Tunisia.

This session will focus on the implementation of training for jurilinguists at the University of El Manar in Tunisia. This experience in Tunisia will be discussed and compared with similar training/courses that already exist in other Arab and OECD countries.

**Speakers:**
- Mr. Nadhir Ben Ammou, Professor, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Tunis El Manar University, Tunisia.
- Mr. Ridha Fraoua, Chef of the Legislation Unit in the Federal Office of Justice, Switzerland.

### Closing Session

Chair of the Good Governance for Development (GfD) Working Group IV on Public Service Delivery, Public-Private Partnerships and Regulatory Reform:

**Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane**, Juridical Counsellor, Prime Ministry, Tunisia

*Wrap up:*

**Mr. Edward Donelan**, Principal Administrator, SIGMA (joint initiative of the OECD and the European Commission), OECD.

**Closing remarks:**
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mr. Benoit Turcotte**, Director, Centre of Regulatory Expertise, Regulatory Affairs, Treasury Board of Secretariat, Canada.
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mrs. Fiorenza Barazzoni**, Director General, Unity for Simplification and Quality Regulation, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy.
- Co-Chair of the GfD Working Group IV:
  - **Mr. Jeroen Nijland**, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Netherlands.
- OECD Secretariat, Governance MENA Programme:
  - **Mr. Josef Konvitz**, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD.