

OECD Integrity Week 2015
23-26 March 2015

**Meeting of the MENA - OECD Governance
Programme - Working Group I on Civil
Service and Integrity**

*The role of parliaments and independent
institutions to fight corruption and promote
trust in the MENA region*

AGENDA

24 March 2015

Château, Room E
Paris, France



**MENA-OECD
GOVERNANCE
PROGRAMME**

About the OECD

The OECD is a forum in which governments compare and exchange policy experiences, identify good practices in light of emerging challenges, and promote decisions and recommendations to produce better policies for better lives. The OECD's mission is to promote policies that improve economic and social well-being of people around the world.

About OECD Integrity Week

The OECD's second annual Integrity Week takes place in Paris from 23-26 March 2015. On this occasion, the OECD will host multiple public events relating to anti-corruption and integrity. These events will bring together stakeholders from government, academia, business, trade union and civil society to engage in dialogue on policy, best practices, and recent developments in the fields of integrity and anti-corruption.

MENA-OECD Governance Programme - Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity

This meeting of the Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme will discuss the role of independent institutions in establishing citizen's trust by ensuring that public money has been used cost-effectively and preventing its misuse. Independent institutions are also asked to play a key role to fight corruption and ensure fair and equal treatment of citizens by the public administration. Transparency, trust in government and inclusive policies are the responsibilities of the government and the independent institutions in the MENA region, in order to reinforce integrity, to control the use of the public money and to prevent corruption. This Working Group meeting is an opportunity to cross experiences and share lessons learned and good practices from MENA and OECD countries.

The Working Group on Civil Service and Integrity, chaired by Morocco, Spain and Turkey, gathers practitioners from the MENA region and OECD countries engaged in promoting integrity and preventing corruption. It is a leading MENA-OECD network to promote regional dialogue to exchange good practices in the area of civil service, integrity and anti-corruption.

About the MENA-OECD Governance Programme

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme is a strategic partnership between MENA and OECD countries to share knowledge and expertise with a view of disseminating standards and principles of good governance. The Programme operates regional networks on key areas of public governance, including the Working Group I on Civil Service and Integrity. The meeting is coordinated with the MENA Investment programme as part of the MENA -OECD Initiative. The Initiative promotes broad reforms to enhance the investment climate, modernise governance structures and operations, strengthen regional and international partnerships, and promote sustainable economic growth throughout the MENA region. To find out more about the Initiative, please visit our website at www.oecd.org/mena.

For any questions concerning the content of the meeting, please contact Ms. Roula Sylla (roula.sylla@oecd.org). Please direct any questions regarding practical arrangements to Ms. Anaisa Goncalves (anaisa.goncalves@oecd.org).

AGENDA

24 March 2015

09:00 – 09:15 Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:15- 9:30 **Opening**
Mr. William Danvers, Deputy Secretary General, OECD

09:30- 13:00 **Session 1 : The role of Parliaments and SAIs in establishing citizen's trust**

Citizens have a right to know if the governments are spending public money wisely: prudently, effectively, in compliance with existing regulations and in line with national priorities. This session provides an opportunity to discuss how parliaments and SAIs contribute to build citizens' trust in government by ensuring that value for money really happens and prevent the misuse of public money.

The first part of the session will focus on (I) parliaments, the second on (II) SAI.

(I) Parliaments: By holding governments to account members of Parliament are mandated to ensure that the government properly manages public money.

Participations will discuss the following questions::

- *What do Parliaments need to build greater capacity to exercise oversight and carry out their budgetary and audit functions?*
- *Which role can civil society have to actively participate in the budgeting process?*
- *In many MENA countries, citizens and civil society cooperate with Parliaments in order to increase transparency and inclusive policies. What are the lessons learned?*

(II) Supreme Audit Institutions: SAIs are a critical part of the national accountability architecture. In the past decades, audit institutions have increasingly focused not only on auditing public sector financial accounts but also on scrutinizing whether public spending is value for money, i.e. whether public money has been used cost-effectively. Given their mandates to revise government accounts, operations and performance, SAIs are thus natural partners of citizens in exercising public scrutiny.

Participations will discuss the following questions:

- *What are the practices for SAI to ensure that value for money really happens?*
- *How can citizens be engaged in the preparation and follow up of audit findings?*
- *Which mechanism of effective cooperation can be established between SAIs, Parliaments and civil society to safeguard and enhance transparency, accountability and good governance within government?*
- *What is the state of play in terms of governance of state owned enterprises in the region and what has been the role of state audit institutions in this regard?*

CHAIR:

- **Mr. Abdellatif Mouatadid**, Director Support Division, Central Agency for Corruption Prevention, Morocco
- **Ms. Roula Sylla**, Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD

SPEAKERS :

- **Mr. Mongi Rahoui**, Member of Parliament, President of the financial, planning and development commission, Parliament, Tunisia
- **Mr. Ghassan Moukheiber**, Member of Parliament, Parliament, Lebanon
- **Mr. Mouheb Garoui**, Executive Director, I-WATCH Organization, Tunisia
- **Mr. Abdellatif Bennani**, Advisor to the first President, Court of Auditors, Morocco
- **Mr. Augusto Ferradaes**, Auditor of the Brazilian Federal Court of Auditors, Brazil
- **Ms. Alison McMeekin**, Policy Analyst, Public Sector Integrity Division, Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD
- **Ms. Alissa Amico**, Policy Analyst, Directorate for Financial and Enterprises Affairs, OECD
- **Ms. Sara Fyson**, Governance Advisor, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD

A coffee break will be announced at the discretion of the chair.

13.00- 14.30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00 Session 2 : Anti-corruption Institutions and civil society: increasing the cooperation and fighting corruption

Anti-Corruption Agencies are playing a key role to ensure fair treatment of citizens by the public administration, based on transparent procedures. In addition, these agencies are responsible to prevent and fight corruption. There is a trend in MENA countries to establish independent institutions. On the other hand, civil society is demanding to be more involved in promoting good governance and to reinforce the integrity framework and anti-corruption tools. This session aims to discuss the different policies, tools and processes adopted by Anti-Corruption Agencies in cooperation with civil society and other independent institutions to jointly fight and prevent corruption.

Participations will discuss the following questions:

- *In which fields could anti-corruption agencies, independent institutions and civil society cooperate?*
- *What are the practical implications of this cooperation??*
- *The anti-corruption agencies are well placed to foster a dialogue between the government and citizens. Which mechanisms to reach out to citizens and consult with the government have been employed, in which areas and what are the lessons learned?*

CHAIR:

- **H.E. Mr. Ricardo Díez-Hochleitner**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the OECD, Spain, Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme

SPEAKERS:

- **Mr. Issam Abdaleem**, Director General, Anti-Corruption Commission, Palestinian Authority.
- **Mr. Abdellatif Mouatadid**, Director Support Division, Central Agency for Corruption Prevention, Morocco
- **Mr. Samir Annabi**, President of the Anti-Corruption Agency, Tunisia
- **Mr. Xavier Inglebert**, Advisor, Central Service for Corruption Prevention, France
- **Ms. Yasemin Tugce Inan**, Senior Inspector-Inspection Board, Prime Ministry, Turkey
- **Ms. Roula Sylla** and **Ms. Katharina Zuegel**, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD

16:00 – 16:15 Closing remarks

Mr. Janos Bertok, Head of Division, Public Sector Integrity, OECD (tbc)
