



# Agenda

Meeting of the Steering Group of  
the MENA-OECD Initiative on  
Governance and Investment for  
Development

## **Regional integration for inclusive growth**

9 November 2015 ♦ Rabat, Morocco

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation  
7, rue Franklin Roosevelt

## Objectives of the Steering Group Meeting

The Steering Group of the MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Investment for Development (the “Initiative”) will meet on 9 November 2015 in Rabat to discuss the strategic orientations of the **new mandate of the Initiative for the period 2016-2020**. Building on the impact of a decade of regional policy dialogue and advice, peer learning and implementation support in the areas of public governance and private sector development, the meeting will **set the ground towards the MENA-OECD Ministerial Conference in 2016**. It follows up on a series of discussion rounds, informal meetings with experts, donors and stakeholders from the region (e.g. government officials, representatives from independent institutions, civil society, and private sector) over the course of 2015 to identify the priority themes that will guide the Initiative over the next five years.

The Initiative is currently chaired by Morocco, and co-chaired by Spain and Sweden. With the expected announcement of a new chair of the Initiative, the Steering Group Meeting will provide an occasion to **discuss the official handover of the chairmanship** and a possible alignment of the working groups structure, which sets the institutional architecture for the regional dialogue, in line with the strategic priorities of MENA countries.

The thematic focus on “**Regional integration for inclusive growth**” will allow for a discussion on the critical role of governance frameworks and private sector development to enhance public participation, competitiveness and reinforce regional economic integration, with a view of contributing to the challenges of inclusive growth in the region.

## About the MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Investment for Development

Since 2005, the Initiative has been engaged with MENA countries to improve governance and investment frameworks in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The Initiative promotes broad reforms to enhance the business and investment climate, disseminates standards and principles of good governance, works to strengthen regional and international partnerships, and promotes sustainable economic growth across the region. The year 2015 marks ten years of co-operation and partnership between the OECD and the MENA region.

The Initiative convenes representatives of 18 MENA governments, 34 OECD member countries and partner organisations around the world to exchange good practices in a wide range of policy areas, leveraging the OECD model of policy dialogue and peer learning. It provides a platform for dialogue with civil society, the business community and academia to collectively identify priorities for public governance and business climate reforms and support their implementation.

The Initiative’s work is structured around two pillars, the MENA-OECD Governance Programme and the MENA-OECD Investment Programme. Both pillars co-ordinate their activities and implement joint activities, e.g. in the areas of integrity and gender.

### Focus areas

#### MENA-OECD Governance Programme

- Promoting open, inclusive and transparent government with a focus on youth inclusion;
- Strengthening rule of law, public sector integrity and anti-corruption frameworks;
- Fostering more efficient government institutions and processes;
- Reinforcing institutional and legal frameworks for gender equality in public life;
- Strengthening capacities for local governance.

#### MENA-OECD Investment Programme

- Stimulating investment and improving investment security;
- Fostering sound infrastructure development;
- Promoting private sector development. entrepreneurship and SME development;
- Levelling the playing field through business integrity and corporate governance;
- Fostering women’s economic integration.

## Draft Agenda

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| 08:30 - 09:30                         | Registration   |
| <b>Joint Plenary Session: Opening</b> |  |
| 09:30 - 10:30                         | <b>Opening Session</b>   |
|                                       | <p><b>Welcoming remarks</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Mohammed LOUFAA</b>, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in Charge of General Affairs and Governance, Kingdom of Morocco, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Mohamed MOUBDI</b>, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government for Civil Service and Modernisation of Public Administration, Kingdom of Morocco, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Annika MARKOVIC</b>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the OECD, Sweden, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. José Ignacio WERT</b>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the OECD, Spain, Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme;</p> <p><b>Mr. Rolf ALTER</b>, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD;</p> <p><b>Mr. Marcos BONTURI</b>, Director, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD.</p>  |
| 10:30 - 11:00                         | Family picture & Coffee Break  |
| 11:00 - 12:30                         | <b>Plenary session: Regional integration for inclusive growth</b>  |
|                                       | <p><i>This session will outline the critical role of regional integration to promote inclusive growth, facilitate investment and trade and foster the competitiveness of MENA economies. It will discuss how public governance and investment frameworks can contribute to better integrate economies in the MENA region. It will also highlight strategies to ensure that economic outcomes are more equally distributed among all groups in society.</i></p> <p><u>Chair:</u></p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Paulo VIZEU PINHEIRO</b>, Ambassador of Portugal to the OECD and chair of the External Relations Committee of the OECD</p> <p><u>Speaker:</u></p> <p><b>Mr. Mohamed CHAFIKI</b>, Director of Studies and Financial Forecasts, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Kingdom of Morocco</p> <p><u>For discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can the MENA-OECD Initiative support regional integration conducive to sustainable and inclusive growth?</li> <li>• How can MENA governments foster integration in the areas of investment and trade, infrastructure development and sectorial co-operation?</li> <li>• How to respond to the harmonisation of regulatory and legal frameworks and standards, essential to foster regional integration?</li> <li>• How can transparency, accountability mechanisms and greater engagement of citizens, parliaments, civil society and private sector support policy development for regional integration?</li> </ul> |

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|                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can we ensure a more inclusive distribution of the benefits of the regional integration, facilitating for example the access of SMEs to international markets, and the positive impact of integration on youth, women and remote areas?</li> </ul>  |
| 12:30 - 14:30                         | Lunch hosted by the Moroccan authorities (Hôtel Tour Hassan)   |
| <b>Break-out sessions</b>             |  |
| 15:00 - 17:00                         | <b>Implementing the new Mandate: towards a new era of engagement</b>   |
| See detailed programmes in annex.     |  |
| 17:00 - 17:30                         | Coffee break   |
| <b>Joint Plenary Session: Closing</b> |  |
| 17:30 - 18:30                         | <b>Paving the way towards the MENA-OECD Ministerial Conference</b>   |
|                                       | <p>This session will present the key conclusions of the event and announce the next steps towards the Ministerial Conference in spring 2016. Following a presentation by the OECD secretariat, the Government of Tunisia will announce its candidacy to the chairmanship of the Initiative for the period 2016-2020 and present its strategic orientations. Participants will be invited to provide their suggestions and orientations for the Ministerial Conference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The roadmap to the 2016 - 2020 mandate :</b></li> </ul> <p><b>M. Carlos CONDE</b>, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Presentation by Tunisia of its candidature to the co-presidency of the Initiative</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Ms. Khaoula LABIDI</b>, Director General for Coordination of International Cooperation, Head of Government, Tunisia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Round table</b></li> <li><b>Closing remarks :</b></li> </ul> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Mohammed LOUFAA</b>, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in Charge of General Affairs and Governance, Kingdom of Morocco, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Mohamed MOUBDI</b>, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government for Civil Service and Modernisation of Public Administration, Kingdom of Morocco, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Annika MARKOVIC</b>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the OECD, Sweden, and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme;</p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. José Ignacio WERT</b>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the OECD, Spain and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme;</p> <p><b>Mr. Martin FORST</b>, Head of Division, Governance Reviews and Partnerships Division, OECD;</p> <p><b>Mr. Marcos BONTURI</b>, Director, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD.</p> |
| 19:30 - 21:00                         | Cocktail hosted by the OECD (Sofitel Hotel – Jardin des roses)   |

## ANNEX : Detailed programme for break-out sessions

15:00 - 17:00

Implementing the new mandate: towards a new era of engagement

### MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme

*This session will focus on the future areas of work of the Programme. Discussions should build on the impact of activities and priorities for the region. In particular, the mandate, modus operandi and topics to be addressed by the existing working groups and expert networks will be assessed in order to encourage the development of a vibrant private sector in support of regional and global integration. The governance structure and representativeness of these networks will also be examined. Participants are invited to consider the proposals made by speakers and share their views on future work directions. These proposals will be taken into account in the meeting conclusions and will serve as a framework for preparations to the Ministerial Conference that will set the guidelines of the new mandate for the MENA-OECD Programme for Competitiveness.*

#### **Introduction by the Chair :**

- **Mr. Mohamed BENAYAD**, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Morocco

#### **Future programme of work**

#### **Interventions by :**

- **Ms. Nicola EHLERMANN**, Head of the MENA-OECD Investment / Competitiveness Programme, OECD
- **Mr. Hans CHRISTIANSEN**, Principal Economist, Corporate Affairs Division, OECD

#### **Enhancing the business climate for private sector, entrepreneurship and SME development**

#### **Interventions by :**

- **Mr. Sadok BEJJA**, Director General for SME Development, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines, Tunisia
- **Ms. Soraya BADRAOUI**, Director General, TopClass Espresso, Morocco
- **Mr. Said HANAFI**, General Counsel, ORASCOM Development and Vice-President, American Chamber of commerce, Egypt

#### **Discussion.**

#### **Supporting policies for investment promotion and infrastructure development**

#### **Interventions by :**

- **Ms. Marie-Estelle REY**, Principal Advisor, MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme, OECD
- **Mr. Olivier de SAINT-LAGER**, Co-Chair of the Investment Security in the Mediterranean (ISMED) Working Group
- **H.E. Mr. Yasser EL-NAGGAR**, Ambassador, Principal Assistant Minister of Investment, Egypt

#### **Discussion.**

## MENA-OECD Governance Programme

**Chair:** Mr. Ahmed LAAMOURI, Secretary General pi, Ministry of Civil Service and Modernisation of Administration, Morocco

## Leveraging the impact of the regional work for a new era of cooperation

**Introduction:** Ms. Miriam ALLAM, Head of Programme, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, OECD

*This session will take stock of the activities of regional working groups, networks and the Programme Training Centre Caserta and present the regional report "Youth in the MENA Region: How to bring them in". This session will highlight the impact of regional dialogue and report on the implementation of policy reforms in MENA countries that were driven and encouraged by the exchange of good practices in the working groups.*

Regional Working Groups: Regional dialogue for inclusive growth

- Interventions from the presidents and co-presidents of the MENA-OECD working groups

Regional Reports: Youth in the MENA region – How to bring them in

- Mr. Moritz ADER, Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, OECD
- Mr. Abderrahim FOUKAHI, President, Moroccan Centre for the Right of Access to Information

MENA-OECD Governance Programme Training Centre Caserta: Building institutional capacities for the future

- Ms. Renata PAVLOV, Executive Director, MENA-OECD Governance Programme Training Centre

**Discussion.**

## Orientations for the MENA-OECD Governance Programme: Towards the new mandate 2016-2020

**Introduction:** Mr. Martin FORST, Head of Division, Governance Reviews and Partnerships Division, OECD

*With the transition of the MENA-OECD Initiative towards a fourth mandate, the session provides an opportune momentum to discuss the strategic orientations that should guide its activities over the next years. Delivering on the conclusions of the last Steering Group Meeting on 5 February 2015, the Programme has reinforced its focus on assisting MENA countries in readjusting public governance frameworks for more inclusive growth. With a view to unlock social and economic development and citizens' expectations for more inclusive policy making, transparency and accountability, the Programme has strengthened its collaboration with relevant multilateral initiatives, such as the G7 Deauville Partnership and the Open Government Partnership. By redirecting its expertise in areas such as open and inclusive government towards women's empowerment and youth inclusion, strengthening local governance and emerging pressures, such as the refugee crisis, the Programme delivers upon the immediate demands of MENA countries, while ensuring continuity in key areas such as strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption, transparency and efficiency in public management and public procurement.*

**Interventions by:**

- Mr. Mousa ABU ZEID, President, General Personnel Council, Palestinian Authority
- Judge Tarek SAYD ABD ELBAKY, Vice President, Supreme Court of Cassation, Egypt
- Dr. Mohammed AL-HAWRI, Deputy Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Ministry of Planning and International Co-operation, Yemen
- Mr. Abderrahim FOUKAHI, President, Moroccan Centre for the Right of Access to Information
- Mr. Mohammed LIDIDI, Secretary General, Ombudsman Office, Morocco
- Ms. Roula SYLLA, Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, OECD

**Discussion.**

| Key Contacts   |  |
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| MENA-OECD Governance Programme   | MENA-OECD Investment Programme   |
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| <p><b>M. Samir BOUGGAR</b><br/> Chef de la Division de Coopération, Ministère de la<br/> Fonction Publique et de la Modernisation de<br/> l'Administration, Royaume du Maroc<br/> E : samir@mmsp.gov.ma</p>          | <p><b>Mme Asmae IBNATTYA ANDALOUSSI</b><br/> Chargée de Mission auprès du Chef du<br/> Gouvernement, Responsable du dossier OCDE,<br/> Ministère chargé des Affaires Générales et de la<br/> Gouvernance<br/> Kingdom of Morocco<br/> T : +212 661 12 01 62<br/> E : ibnattya@mag.gov.ma</p> |
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