

Background Information

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

The Special Session of the Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) and the WG IV will be held back-to-back with the 5th RPC meeting (for more information please visit www.oecd.org/regreform). The objective of the Special Session is to deepen common understanding of regulatory policy and PPP reform issues across MENA and OECD countries and provide a forum in which to exchange experiences, ideas and good practices.

The main items to be covered during this annual meeting will be the:

- i) Success factors of reviewing the existing stock of legislation to eliminate outdated/and or unnecessary regulation
- ii) Good practices in designing and managing governance frameworks for Public-Private Partnerships to boost inclusive growth
- iii) Programme of Work of the Working Group IV

Wednesday, 2 November 2011

8.30 – 9.00 Registration

9.00 – 9.30 Opening Session

Welcome address:

- **Mr. Jeroen Nijland**, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands, Chair of the Regulatory Policy Committee and Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Working Group IV
- **Mr. Rolf Alter**, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD

Opening statements:

- **Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane**, Juridical Counsellor, Prime Ministry, Tunisia, on behalf of the Chair of the MENA-OECD Working Group IV
- **H.E. Mr. Johannes Westerhoff**, Ambassador, German Delegation to the OECD, on behalf of the Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme
- **H.E. Mr. Carlo Maria Oliva**, Ambassador, Italian Delegation to the OECD, on behalf of Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Working IV

9.30 – 10.45 Session 1: Success factors for reviewing the existing legislation

Chair: Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands

Regulation may become outdated as circumstances change. The review of the existing stock of legislation is one of the main priorities within the context of the current transition process in the MENA region. The review questions and evaluates the existing legislation, helps to understand what to regulate and how and therefore contributes to quality regulation that creates an enabling environment for sustainable and inclusive growth. In addition, a thorough review of the legislation increases transparency and clarity as it eliminates outdated and/or unnecessary legislation.

OECD experience highlights that certain features are critical for the success of reviewing the regulatory stock. This session explores the defining elements of successful reviews and discusses available instruments for delivering quality regulations.

- **H.E. Mr. Khalil Karaja Al-Rifai**, Deputy Minister of Justice, Palestinian Authority
- **Mr. Daniel Trnka**, Policy Analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD
- **Mr. Alaa Kotb**, Vice-President of the State Council, Prime Ministry, Egypt
- **Mr. Alfonso Carballo**, General Director of the Federal Commission on Regulatory Improvement, Mexico

10.45 – 11.15 Coffee break

11.15 – 12.30	Session 2: Public-Private Partnerships: Examples from MENA and OECD countries
<p><i>Chair: Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands</i></p> <p>Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) can play a crucial role in increasing investment, and bringing in the much needed efficiency gains and expertise for the development of essential infrastructure that will underpin the economic dynamism, job creation and inclusive growth in MENA countries. PPPs are major public procurement projects that prerequisite adequate institutional, legal and regulatory arrangements. This session will discuss current initiatives for infrastructure PPPs in MENA and OECD countries. MENA and OECD delegates will introduce past and current PPP projects and financing instruments, present the challenges encountered and discuss future PPP arrangements in light of the transition process.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Ahmed Jehani, Minister of Reconstruction, Libya • Mrs. Celine Kauffmann, Senior Economist, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD • H.E. Mr. Abdellatif Najdawi, Secretary General, Legislative Opinion Bureau, Prime Ministry, Jordan • Mr. Javier Encinas, Assistant Director, Infrastructure UK, International Unit, HM Treasury, UK 	
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 16.00	Session 3: Good practices on Public-Private Partnerships – establishing effective governance frameworks
<p><i>Chair: Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands</i></p> <p>This session will relate the experience of MENA and OECD countries to the body of good practices and tools on good governance of PPPs drawing on the work of the OECD Network of Senior Public Private Partnership Officials, the Working Party of Senior Budget Officials and the OECD Regulatory Policy Committee. The session will also report on the outcome of the preceding PPP regional dialogue held within the MENA-SBO meeting on 21-22 September in Beirut. Delegates will discuss OECD country experience of reviews to identify weaknesses of the current system and analyse how the country's PPP governance framework can be improved to increase value for money for the public sector, efficiency in the procurement process, greater transparency and accountability across responsible authorities such as contracting authorities, oversight and regulatory bodies. Delegates are encouraged to discuss suitable options for PPP reviews in the context of the Deauville Partnership for improving regulatory PPP frameworks.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ian Hawkesworth, Policy Analyst, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD • Mr. Mohamed Tangi, Advisor to the Minister, General Secretary of the Government, Morocco • Mr. Mustafa Mecit, Expert, Ministry of Development, Turkey 	

- **Mr. Henry Marty-Gauquié**, Director, and **Mr. Julien Serre**, FEMIP Trust Fund Management Officer, European Investment Bank

Roundtable discussion

16.00 – 16.30 | *Coffee break*

16.30 – 17.00 | **Session 4: Conclusions and the future Programme of work of the MENA-OECD WG IV**

Chair: Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Director, Regulatory Reform Group, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands

This session will summarise the role of regulatory frameworks for boosting inclusive growth and will relate the discussion to ongoing and future projects within the MENA-OECD WG IV. Delegates will also discuss the prospects for using OECD instruments in their national context such as OECD recommendations and standards. In addition, delegates from the Palestinian Authority will present the MENA-OECD Initiative to Support the Palestinian Authority in the field of Regulatory Consultation and Law Drafting and discuss progress on the implementation. The Regional Centre of Expertise for Regulatory Quality will report on its work on gender-sensitive regulatory quality frameworks as well as its forthcoming training activities.

Speakers:

- **Mr. Kheireddine Ben Soltane**, Juridical Counsellor, Prime Ministry, Tunisia, Chair of the MENA-OECD Working Group IV
- **Mr. Amer Shaheen**, Director, Legal Department, Office of the President and **Mr. Imad Hamman**, Director, Council of Ministers, Palestinian Authority
- **Mr. Nick Malyshev**, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD