



**12th Annual Meeting of the
MENA-OECD Working Group on
Open and Innovative Government**

Dubai (UAE), 11 February 2017

MENA-OECD Working Group on Open and Innovative Government

The MENA-OECD Working Group on Open and Innovative Government (WG II), chaired by the UAE and co-chaired by Italy and South Korea, meets on an annual basis and since 2014 is back-to-back with the World Government Summit hosted by the UAE.

Its 12th meeting took place in Dubai, on 11 February 2017, and was co-organised with UN ESCWA. It was opened by the representatives of its new chair and the co-chairs, H.E. Hamad Obaid Al Mansoor, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, UAE, and Mr. Heon-Jun Kim, Ministry of Interior, Korea, and Mr. Umberto Bernardo, Embassy of Italy to the UAE. The participation of Finland, Korea, Mexico and Sweden gave a global dimension to the discussions. The OECD presented the findings of the [“OECD Global Innovation Review”](#) which highlights that public sectors need to be agile and innovative to achieve policy objectives in an increasingly complex world as well as the regional report [“Benchmarking Digital Government Strategies in the MENA region”](#). Based on the report [“Open Government: The global context and the way forward”](#) participants were invited to reflect on how to promote the open government agenda in the MENA region, to bring open government to the local level and promote access to information as a basis for transparency



KEY OUTCOMES

- Open Government policies: should meet the demands of citizens and business, contribute to national policy goals, and be measured against concrete outcomes;
- Open data: critical element in supporting economic growth, improving public services, promoting transparency and accountability;
- Innovation: considering context allows innovative practices to be aligned with regional priorities.

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2017

- Promote the implementation of the recommendations of the regional study “Benchmarking Digital Government Strategies in the MENA Countries”;
- Review MENA government’s engagement with citizens and youth at the national and local level;
- Promote a culture of public sector innovation.