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Support to Enhanced Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt

Policy dialogue on the role of access to information in support of Egypt Vision 2030 and the National Administrative Reform Plan

Agenda

7-8 February 2024
Fairmont Nile City, Lavender Ballroom.
Cairo, Egypt

MENA - OECD
Governance Programme

Objectives

As part of the strategic partnership between the Government of Egypt and the European Union (EU), a policy dialogue of the **"Support to Enhanced Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt"** project funded by the European Union, will take place on **7-8 February 2024** in **Cairo**. This five-year project implemented by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) aims to support the efforts by the Government of Egypt to strengthen the monitoring and implementation of priority public governance reforms. More specifically, the EU-funded project addresses three priority areas, namely support to the Egypt Vision 2030 and the National Administrative Reform Plan (ARP), as well as support to the effective and efficient execution of robust public finance systems. These objectives respond to the EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities 2021-2027 and will be implemented through the strategic collaboration between the Government of Egypt, the EU, and the OECD.

This policy dialogue on access to information is organised in the framework of this EU-funded project. More specifically, and based on the findings of the project and on interviews conducted with Egyptian public officials, the potential benefit of developing guidelines on the reactive and proactive disclosure of information to strengthen the transparency of public decision-making was highlighted. These guidelines would support the public administration in taking a uniform and structured approach to proactively disclosing essential information around Egypt Vision 2030, and the National Administrative Reform Plan (NARP) in Egypt.

This policy dialogue will take stock of key findings, allow for the exchange of good practices from MENA and OECD Member countries, and discuss the expected objectives and outcomes of the guidelines on access to information.

The meeting will be held in English with Arabic interpretation available.

Day one

9:30 – 10.00   Welcoming coffee and registration

10.00 – 10:15   Introduction
- **Amr Soliman**, Policy analyst and lead, MENA-OECD Governance Programme
- **Emma Cantera**, Policy Analyst, Open Governance Unit, Innovative, Digital and Open Government Division (INDIGO), Public Governance Directorate, OECD

10:15 – 10.45   Access to information in OECD and MENA countries

In this session, the OECD Secretariat will present international trends on transparency, with a particular focus on the proactive and reactive disclosure of public information. The presentation will draw on insights underpinned by comparative data on access to information collected by the OECD, as well as showcase good practices in countries across the MENA region.

- **Marie Whelan**, Policy Analyst, Open Governance Unit, Innovative, Digital and Open Government Division (INDIGO), Public Governance Directorate, OECD
- **Caroline Mina**, Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

10:45 – 13:15   Global Perspectives: Lessons from Mexico and Morocco

In this session, two countries will share an overview of their progress, successes and challenges in the area of access to information. Both will provide presentations on the broader ecosystem for access to information and elaborate on how access to information forms a core part of their national reform agendas and related plans and strategies. Participants are invited to react to the presentations, share their reflections and insights, and pose any questions they may have to both the OECD Secretariat and the two peer countries.

Morocco

Morocco has been undertaking reforms since 2012 to promote the principles of transparency, accountability, and citizen and stakeholder participation in public decision-making. The right of access to information has been central to this endeavour and the country has made tremendous strides in this area over the past 10 years, including through the adoption of a law on access to information in 2018, an institutional framework for its implementation, and its positioning as an essential element of Morocco's 2035 new development model.

- **Hatim Mouradi**, Head of the Innovation and Modernisation Division, Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration Reform, Morocco

- **Q&A**

11:45 – 12:15   Break

Mexico

Mexico has made significant efforts to enhance access to information over the years, spearheaded by the National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information, and Personal Data Protection (INAI), which is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the law on access to information. Mexico

is ahead of many other countries in this regard, as they have made great progress on measuring the implementation of access to information across the public administration in practice.

- **Edmundo Vázquez Serralde**, National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information, and Personal Data Protection (INAI), Mexico

- **Q&A**

13:15 – 13:30   Conclusions

- **Amr Soliman,** Policy analyst and lead, MENA-OECD Governance Programme
- **Emma Cantera,** Policy Analyst, Open Governance Unit, Innovative, Digital and Open Government Division (INDIGO), Public Governance Directorate, OECD

13:30   Lunch

Day two

9:30 – 10.00	Welcoming coffee and registration

10.00 – 10:15	Introduction

- **Caroline Mina**, Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

10:15-10.30	Mainstreaming access to information in Egypt

Following the discussion on progress in OECD and MENA countries, this session will invite participants to reflect on the role of access to information in Egypt. The OECD Secretariat will provide an initial overview – informed by the findings of the chapter on transparency, which forms part of the broader project – of the state of play before providing a brief summary of existing mechanisms to promote access to information in practice across OECD and MENA countries.

- **Marie Whelan**, Policy Analyst, Open Governance Unit, Innovative, Digital and Open Government Division (INDIGO), Public Governance Directorate, OECD

10.30 – 11.30	How to ensure effective implementation: Good practices from Morocco and Mexico

This session will feature good practices from countries in the MENA region and OECD Member countries. Morocco and Mexico will showcase how the public administration implements access to information in practice with a focus on tools, platforms, practices and guidelines.

- **Hatim Mouradi**, Head of the Innovation and Modernisation Division, Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration Reform, Morocco
- **Edmundo Vázquez Serralde**, National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information, and Personal Data Protection (INAI), Mexico

Discussion

11.30 – 12.00	Break

12.00 – 13:15	What tools, platforms, practices and guidelines could support access to information in Egypt?

Depending on the number of participants, this session will include breakout groups. The different groups will discuss what mechanisms could foster access to information in the Egyptian context.

- **Maryham Anwar**, Senior Public Administration Reform Specialist of the project
- **Lina Sabry**, Communications specialist of the project
- **Caroline Mina,** Policy Analyst, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

Reporting back

13:15 – 13:30	Conclusions and next steps

- **Maryham Anwar,** Senior Public Administration Reform Specialist of the Project
- **Marie Whelan,** Policy Analyst, Open Governance Unit, Innovative, Digital and Open Government Division (INDIGO), Public Governance Directorate, OECD

13.30	Lunch

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