



AGENDA

STEERING GROUP MEETING

Partnering for Shared Prosperity

MENA-OECD Days

18 June 2019

Movenpick Hotel, Berges du Lac
Tunis



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Objective

The Steering Group Meeting of the MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Competitiveness for Development will gather the co-chairs of the Initiative as well as key stakeholders for the annual strategic reflection on the Initiative.

The meeting will be an opportunity for participants to share their views on the strategic priorities of the MENA-OECD Initiative for 2020 and pave the road to the renewal of its fifth mandate for 2021-25. The meeting will also be an opportunity to take stock of progress achieved in the implementation of the 2016-20 mandate, with a special focus on impact and results.

On this occasion, the Steering Group Meeting is organised in the context of the MENA-OECD Days, which will include a number of high-level discussions and technical roundtables of several Working Groups and Networks. The meeting will be opened by Tunisia, the EU and Turkey as co-chairs of the Initiative and high-level representatives from the OECD.

Participants

Invitees to the Steering Group Meeting of the MENA-OECD Initiative include representatives from governments, private sector and civil society organisations from OECD and MENA economies. A special invitation is extended to the co-chairs of the different Working Groups and Networks for them to provide strategic guidance for the upcoming programme of work and overall direction of activities.

Practical information

Arabic/English/French interpretation will be provided during the meetings.

The MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Competitiveness for Development

Created at the request of MENA countries in 2005, the Initiative facilitates co-operation between the OECD and the MENA region to promote policies for sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Initiative brings together MENA and OECD governments, the international community, civil society and the private sector to address regional needs and development priorities, including the integration of women and youth through jobs and greater participation in policy making. It also takes into account the region's diversity by providing targeted support to individual countries.

The Initiative builds on the OECD's working methods of policy dialogue, exchange of good practices and capacity building for the implementation of reforms.

<http://www.oecd.org/mena>

MENA-OECD DAYS 2019: PARTNERING FOR SHARED PROSPERITY

■ Steering Group Meeting
 ■ Governance pillar
 ■ Competitiveness pillar

MONDAY
17 June

TUESDAY
18 June

WEDNESDAY
19 June



Steering Group Meeting Agenda

18 June 2019

9:00-9:30

Opening session

- **Mr. Riadh MOAKHER**, Secretary General of the Government, Presidency of the Government, Tunisia and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme
- **H.E. Mr. Zied LADHARI**, Minister of Investment, International Cooperation and Development, Tunisia, Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme
- **H.E. Mr. Rupert SCHLEGELMILCH**, Ambassador of the EU to the OECD and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme
- **H.E. Mr. Erdem BAŞÇI**, Ambassador of Turkey to the OECD and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme

09:30-10:00

Coffee break & group picture

10:00-11:15

PLENARY SESSION 1: Regional priorities towards shared prosperity

Chair

Mr. Riadh MOAKHER*, Secretary General of the Government, Presidency of the Government, Tunisia; and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme

Special address

H.E. Ms. Sahar NASR, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, Egypt

Keynote speaker

Mr. Zouhair EL KADHI, General Director, Tunisian Institute of Competitiveness and Quantitative Studies

Respondents

H.E Mr. Lahcen DAOUDI, Minister Delegate for General Affairs and Governance, Morocco
H.E. Mr. Ahmed KOUCHOUK, Vice Minister for Fiscal Policies, Ministry of Finance, Egypt
Ms. Zeina TOUKAN, Secretary General, Ministry of Planning and International Co-operation, Jordan
Mr. Kamel AYADI, President, High Committee of Administrative and Financial Control, Tunisia

This session will discuss the strategic priorities of countries in the Middle East and North Africa to partner for shared prosperity in a global context. In the framework of the Agenda 2030 and national reform agendas, MENA economies have made strong commitments to addressing persistent gaps in the access to social, economic and participation opportunities. Barriers to reduce these inclusive growth gaps are often related to gender, age and economic resources, among others. The session will explore how targeted policy reforms in the field of public governance and competitiveness can help address the challenges to achieve more inclusive social and economic development across the MENA region.

Open discussion

11:15-12:30

PLENARY SESSION 2: Bridging the digital divide

Chair

H.E. Mr. Anouar MAAROUF, Minister of Communication Technologies and Digital Economy, Tunisia (TBC)

Keynote speaker

Mr. Asaad THEBIAN, Gherbal Initiative, Lebanon

Respondents

OECD: Ms. Barbara UBALDI, Acting Head, Reform of the Public Sector Division, Public Governance Directorate and **Ms. Molly LESHER**, Senior Policy Analyst, Division for Digital Economy Policy, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation;
H.E. Mr. Moussa ABU ZEID, Head, General Personnel Council, Palestinian Authority

In the context of fast-changing realities increasingly driven by technology and data, governments and societies need to adapt their ways of working. Digitalisation holds many promises to spur innovation, generate efficiencies and improve services while boosting more inclusive and sustainable growth and enhance well-being. However, disruptions in the interactions with society and in the structure of (government) organisations and markets, raise important issues around jobs and skills, privacy, security, potential biases and inclusive access. Introducing the OECD Going Digital Project, this session will discuss the opportunities and risks of the digital transformation to partner for shared prosperity across the MENA region.

Open discussion

12:30-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:45 BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

The MENA-OECD Governance and Competitiveness Programmes will run parallel sessions to discuss priority issues as well as exchange views on the next year and future of the Initiative.

Governance Pillar

Chairs: H.E. Mr. Rupert SCHLEGELMILCH, Ambassador of the EU to the OECD and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme and Mr. Slim BEN JRAD, Director General for Governance Services, Office of Prime Minister of Tunisia, Co-Chair of the Governance Programme.

Keynote speaker: H.E. Ms. Louise DE SOUSA, Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Tunisia

Section 1: Focusing on results: Impact of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme and future priorities

Section 2: Working methods

Tour de table

(See separate agenda)

Competitiveness Pillar

Chair: H.E. Mr. Erdem BASÇI, Ambassador of Turkey to the OECD and Co-chair of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme and Ms. Kalthoum HAMZAOU, Director General for Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation, Tunisia, co-chair of the Competitiveness Programme

Section 1: Achievements and impact of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme

Section 2: Identifying emerging and strategic priorities and mainstreaming key issues

Tour de table

(See separate agenda)

15:45-16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00-16:30 Closing remarks and way forward

- **Ms. Kalthoum HAMZAOU**, Director General for Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation, Tunisia, co-chair of the MENA-OECD Competitiveness Programme
- **Mr. Slim BEN JRAD**, Director General for Governance Services, Office of Prime Minister of Tunisia, Chair of Governance Programme
- **Ms. Ivita BURMISTRE**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the OECD, Chair of the OECD External Relations Committee
- **Ms. Irene HORS**, Deputy Director, Public Governance, OECD
- **Mr. Karim DAHOU**, Director's Senior Counsellor, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD

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Regional Programme

Country Projects

