



Meeting of the OECD-MENA Public Procurement Network

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 3rd February 2021 from 9am to 1pm (CET time)



Context

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is supporting the MENA region in enhancing good governance, safeguarding integrity and building strong and resilient government institutions through regional support and bilateral projects, but also by enhancing sharing of lessons learned and insights in furthering governance reforms.

A key area of strategic governance is public procurement, a crucial pillar for public service delivery. Because of the sheer volume of spending it represents (up to 20-25% of GDP in the MENA region), well governed public procurement can and must play a major role in improving public sector efficiency and establishing citizens' trust. Well-designed public procurement systems also contribute to achieving pressing policy goals such as environmental protection, innovation, job creation and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

In the framework of the Deauville Partnership (DP) Action Plan on open governance, the G7 and DP partner countries called for the establishment of a public procurement network to assist reforms in partner countries in compliance with OECD standards and recommendations. Under the auspices of the OECD and the support of member countries like Italy and Korea, the network was launched on 19 September 2012 in Caserta, Italy. Since then, annual meetings were held and different workshops and training activities were carried out, whilst the number of countries participating in the network increased.

Objectives of the meeting

The network's objectives are to share good public procurement practices and identify needs for support in this area, based on the assessment of country procurement systems. The activities of the Network will contribute to the implementation of international legal standards on public procurement. The main reference framework is the 2015 OECD Recommendation on Public Procurement and other sources of international good practice, such as the 2018 Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS), the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the overall guiding framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Participants

Co-chaired by Egypt, Tunisia and Italy, the Network is composed of senior public procurement officials and practitioners from MENA and OECD countries as well as experienced representatives from international organisations.

Countries invited for the event are Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia

Venue & Logistics

Zoom platform

https://meetoecd1.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAKf-mrrzgpGNePXxojiPG33e-4z_cmbYbw

09:00 - 09:20 Welcoming remarks

- **Mr Edwin Lau**, Head of the Infrastructure and Public Procurement Division, OECD
- **Ms. Angela Russo**, Head of International Affairs, Consip Spa, Italy and co-chair of the MENA-OECD Network on Public Procurement
- **Mr Khaled Nofal**, Deputy Minister of Finance of Egypt and co-chair of the MENA-OECD Network on Public Procurement
- **Mr Khaled El Arbi**, President of Tunisia's High Authority for Public Procurement (HAICOP) and co-chair of the MENA-OECD Network on Public Procurement

09:20-10: 50 Session 1: Public Procurement responses to COVID-19

In the early months of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic hit the world and put societies and economies at a stop. The pandemic highlighted that public procurement is a critical component of public service delivery, notably health policies. On the other hand, different challenges affected the delivery of public services and procurement activities including the lack of institutional co-operation and responsiveness.

This session aims at discussing challenges faced by countries as well as procurement strategies that countries need to put in place to be well-equipped for possible future shocks.

Moderator: Ms Erika Bozzay, OECD

- **Ms. Angela Russo**, Head of International Affairs, Consip Spa, Italy
- **Mr Khaled Nofal**, Deputy Minister of Finance of Egypt
- **Dr Mahmoud Khelifat**, Director General, Government Tenders Department, Jordan
- **Ms. Lamia Moubayed Bissat**, President, Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan, Lebanon
- **Mr. Abdelkrim Guiri**, Director in charge of research, regulations and international cooperation, Trésorerie Générale du Royaume, Morocco
- **Ms. Sonia Ben Salem**, President of Tuneps, Tunisia
- **Representative from Algeria**, TBD

10:50-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:20 Session 2: The key role of public procurement in the recovery phase

Public procurement is playing and will play a key role in the recovery phase as it has a strong impact on the economy (15-20 % of GDP). While most countries are currently facing a severe second wave of the pandemic, discussions on the key role of public investment and public procurement in the recovery are already taking place.

In addition, many governments around the globe are discussing strategies regarding essential goods and critical infrastructure to ensure the delivery of public services and the resilience of the system.

This session aims at discussing countries' experiences in the use of public procurement as a strategic lever in the recovery phase.

Moderator: Mr Paulo Magina, OECD

- **Ms Sandrine Jarry**, Assistant Director in charge of modernising Public Procurement, Direction des achats de l'État, France
- **Mr Khaled Nofal**, Deputy Minister of Finance of Egypt
- **Dr Mahmoud Khelifat**, Director General, Government Tenders Department, Jordan
- **Ms. Lamia Moubayed Bissat**, President, Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan, Lebanon
- **Mr. Abdelkrim Guiri**, Director in charge of research, regulations and international cooperation, Trésorerie Générale du Royaume, Morocco
- **Mr Khaled Johmani**, Comptroller General of Public Procurement, HAICOP, Tunisia
- **Representative from Algeria**, TBD

12:20-12:50 Looking ahead: public procurement priority reform areas

This session aims at discussing planned or ongoing public procurement reforms aiming at improving the public procurement system in each of the countries.

Moderator: Ms Kenza Khachani, OECD

- **Mr Khaled Nofal**, Deputy Minister of Finance of Egypt
- **Hanadi Al-Nabulsi, Procurement Manager**, National Electric Power Company, Jordan
- **Ms. Rana Rizkallah**, Procurement Specialist and **Ms. Basma Abdul Khalek**, Economist, Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan, Lebanon
- **Mr. Thami Oulbacha**, President of the National Public Procurement Commission, Morocco
- **Ms Rim Zehri**, President of the National Observatory for Public Procurement, HAICOP, Tunisia
- **Representative from Algeria**, TBD

12:45-13:00 Concluding remarks

- **Mr Paulo Magina**, Deputy Head of the Infrastructure and Public Procurement Division, OECD
- **Mr Khaled Nofal**, Deputy Minister of Finance of Egypt and co-chair of the MENA-OECD Network on Public Procurement
- **Mr Khaled El Arbi**, President of Tunisia's High Authority for Public Procurement (HAICOP) and co-chair of the MENA-OECD Network on Public Procurement
- **H.E. Ambassador Antonio Bernardini**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OECD, Co-Chair of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme

About the OECD and the MENA-OECD Governance Programme



The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** is a unique forum where 37 member governments work together to address the most pressing world economic, social and environmental challenges. The OECD is also at the forefront of efforts to understand and help governments address emerging policy issues such as finding new sources of growth, building skills, and restoring public trust in government and business. The OECD provides a setting where governments can compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practice and work to co-ordinate domestic and international policies. The OECD brings together Member countries and a range of partners that collaborate on key global issues at national, regional and local levels. Through our standards, programmes and initiatives, we help drive and anchor reform in more than 100 countries around the world, building on our collective wisdom and shared values.

For more information: www.oecd.org



Launched in 2005 at the request of governments of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), the **MENA-OECD Governance Programme** is a strategic partnership between OECD and MENA countries to share knowledge and expertise, with a view to disseminate standards and principles of good governance that support the ongoing process of reform in the MENA region. Today, the Programme convenes representatives of 18 MENA governments (Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen), OECD member and partner countries to exchange good practices in a wide range of policy areas, leveraging the OECD model of policy dialogue and peer learning. It provides a sustainable structure for regional policy dialogue as well as for country specific projects. These projects correspond to MENA governments' increasing commitment to pursue public sector reforms in order to unlock social and economic development and meet citizens' growing expectations in terms of quality services, inclusive policy making and transparency.

For more information: www.oecd.org/mena/governance

Contact information

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