



# Strengthening the Rule of Law: Effective and transparent delivery of justice and rule-making in Egypt

Expert Panel – Review of the OECD Report on the  
Egyptian Court of Cassation Reform Measures

Cairo, 27 April 2019  
Sofitel Hotel

Right



MENA - OECD  
Governance Programme



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## The Project

Within the framework of the MENA Transition Fund Project “Strengthening the Rule of Law: Effective and transparent delivery of justice and rule-making in Egypt” of the G7 Deauville Partnership, the OECD, in partnership with the African Development Bank, is collaborating with the Court of Cassation of Egypt and has provided advisory, capacity-building and technical support to the Court in modernising its services, and developing and implementing a reform action plan.

## Expert Panel

Based on the findings from questionnaires, work meetings, study visits and background research, the OECD is preparing a Report on the development and implementation of reforms within the Court of Cassation. The report provides key recommendations along with OECD countries good practices in the field of judicial modernisation, case management and court automation.

In order to further align the report with priorities and needs of the Court, an international expert panel is organised in Cairo. The objective of the panel will be to review the preliminary version of the OECD report against the IRD (Institut de Recherche et de Développement) Recommendations<sup>1</sup> from 2012. It will be composed of judicial modernisation experts from OECD countries and the OECD Secretariat that will be facilitating the exchange of expertise, good practices and resources.

The meeting will also lay the ground for the high-level international conference on the Reform Action Plan of the Court of Cassation, which will take place later this year and will present the finalised version of the OECD Report.

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<sup>1</sup> Developed by a panel composed of judges from the Egyptian and French Courts of Cassation

## List of participants

- **Judge Ayman Saad**, Vice President of the Court, Civil chamber- Responsible of the Technical Bureau's section for civil appeals
- **Judge Gamal Gouda**, Vice President of the Court, Criminal chamber- Responsible of the Technical Bureau's section for criminal appeals
- **Judge Ahmed Aboelenien** Vice President of the Court, Criminal chamber, Head of the International Relations Department
- **Judge Amr Elzohery**, Civil chamber, Head of the Judicial Information Centre
- **Judge Ahmed Refaat**, Vice President of the Court, Civil chamber – Secretary General
- **Judge Rafea Anwar**, Vice President of the Court, Criminal Chamber- Responsible of the Prosecutor Office's section for criminal appeals
- **Attorney General Ahmed Mowafy**, Responsible of the Prosecutor Office for Civil Appeals
- **Judge Sally Elseady**, Technical Bureau, Section for Criminal appeals – Secretary General
- **Judge Ahmed Aboelalaa**, Technical Bureau Section for Criminal Appeals
- **Judge Hossam Elgezawy**, Technical Bureau, Section for Criminal Appeals – Secretary General
- **Attorney General Shereif Elshitany**, Prosecutor Office for Criminal Appeals
- **Judge Mohamed Mamdouh**, Technical Bureau Section for Criminal Appeals
- **Judge Hala Gamal**, Technical Bureau Section for Civil Appeals
- **Chief Prosecutor Ahmed Anan**, Department of International Relations, Court of Cassation, Egypt
- **Chief Prosecutor Mostafa Ebaid**, Prosecutor Office, Section for Civil Appeals
- **Judge Mohamed Habib**, Technical Bureau Section for Criminal Appeals
- **Judge Heba Salah**, Technical Bureau Section for Civil Appeals
- **Mr. Mahmoud Gamal**, Head of the AFDB Project, Ministry of Investment and International Cooperation
- **Mr. Mohamed Salah**, Administrative staff
- **Ms. Dalia Ahmed**, Administrative staff
- **Ms. Aya Tarek**, Administrative staff
- **Ms. Yasmin Hisham**, Administrative staff
  
- **Judge Gianluca Forlani**, Counsellor, Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters, Permanent Representation of Italy to the European Union
- **Dr. Richard Martinez**, Senior Expert in Justice Reforms
- **Dr. Tatyana Teplova**, Head of Division on Justice, Gender and Inclusiveness, OECD
- **Dr. Miriam Allam**, Head of the OECD-MENA Governance Programme, OECD
- **Mr. Jean-Jacques Hible**, Policy Analyst, OECD
- **Ms. Gamze Igriglu**, Policy Analyst, OECD
- **Representative of the AFDB (TBC)**

# AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00

➤ **Welcome coffee**

9:00-9:30

➤ **Welcome Remarks**

- **Judge Ahmed Aboelenien** Vice president of the Court, Criminal chamber, Head of the International Relation Department on behalf of **Magdy Abul Ela, President**, Court of Cassation, Egypt
- **Dr. Miriam Allam**, Head of OECD-MENA Governance Programme, OECD
- Representative of the African Development Bank (TBC)

9:30-10:00

➤ **Presentation of the project and international standards on court modernization**

- OECD Secretariat will present the project with the Court of Cassation and highlight key international standards on citizen-focused court and justice modernization efforts

10:00– 11:00

➤ **Session 1 - Expert discussions on the OECD Report: the structure of the Court**

*Moderation:* **Judge Ayman Saad**, Vice President of the Court, Civil chamber- Responsible of the Technical Bureau's section for civil appeals and **OECD**

- Exchange between the judges from the Court of Cassations, the international experts and the OECD Secretariat
- The discussions will focus on the IRD Recommendations that concern the structure of the Court (e.g. creation of specialised chambers, reduction of appeal remedies before the Court,) and the implementation measures taken by the Court

11:00– 11:30

➤ **Coffee break**

➤ **Session 2 - Expert discussions on the OECD Report: the management of the Court**

*Moderation:* **Judge Gamal Gouda**, Vice President of the Court, Criminal chamber- Responsible of the Technical Bureau's section for criminal appeals and **OECD**

11:30-12.30

- Exchange between the judges from the Court of Cassations, the international experts and the OECD Secretariat
- The discussions will focus on the IRD Recommendations that concern the management of the Court (e.g. improving the classification of cases) and the related implementation measures taken by the Court

➤ **Session 3 - Expert discussions on the OECD Report: the new reform action plan**

*Moderation:* **Judge Ahmed Refaat**, Vice President of the Court, Civil chamber – Secretary General and **OECD**

12.30-13:15

- Exchange between the judges from the Court of Cassations, the international experts and the OECD Secretariat
- The discussions will focus on the IRD Recommendations that concern the reforms plan of the Court (e.g. new projects including organizing continuous training programs, front and back office) and the related implementation measures taken by the Court

• **Coffee break**

13.15-13.45

## Session 4 - Expert discussions on the OECD Report: the automation process

*Moderation:* **Judge Amr Elzohery**, Civil chamber, Head of the Judicial Information Centre and **OECD**

13.45-14.30

- Exchange between the judges from the Court of Cassations, the international experts and the OECD Secretariat
- The discussions will focus on the IRD Recommendations that concern the automation of the Court (e.g. strengthen communication means between organs of the Court, digitalizing processes) and the related implementation measures taken by the Court

14.30

- **Lunch**

## The OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international body that promotes policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. It is made up of 36 member countries, a secretariat in Paris, and a committee, drawn from experts from government and other fields, for each work area covered by the Organisation. The OECD provides a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems. We collaborate with governments to understand what drives economic, social and environmental change. We measure productivity and global flows of trade and investment.

## The MENA-OECD Governance Programme

The MENA-OECD Governance Programme is a strategic partnership between MENA and OECD countries to share knowledge and expertise, with a view of disseminating standards and principles of good governance that support the ongoing process of reform in the MENA region. The Programme strengthens collaboration with the most relevant multilateral initiatives currently underway in the region. In particular, the Programme supports the implementation of the G7 Deauville Partnership and assists governments in meeting the eligibility criteria to become a member of the Open Government Partnership. Through these initiatives, the Programme acts as a leading advocate of managing ongoing public governance reforms in the MENA region. The Programme provides a sustainable structure for regional policy dialogue as well as for country specific projects. These projects correspond to the commitment of MENA governments to implement public sector reforms in view of unlocking social and economic development and of meeting citizens' growing expectations in terms of quality services, inclusive policy making and transparency.

# CONTACT

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