



MENA-Transition Fund Project

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

Venue: Sofitel Cairo El Gezira

25 September 2014

Background Information

The conference will launch the MENA Transition Fund Project: “Strengthening the Rule of Law: Effective and transparent delivery of justice and rule-making in Egypt”. The Project is a joint partnership with the Ministry of Justice and Court of Cassation, in cooperation with the African Development Bank and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development as Implementation Support Agencies.

The MENA Transition Fund was set up by the Deauville Partnership. Created under the French Presidency in 2011, the Deauville Partnership demonstrates a joint commitment by G8 members, regional partners, and international and regional financial institutions to support the efforts of the people and governments of the Partnership countries as they overhaul their economic systems to promote more accountable governance, broad-based, sustainable growth, and greater employment opportunities for youth and women.

As part of the MENA Transition Fund, the Project “Strengthening the Rule of Law in Egypt” addresses the need to improve the delivery of justice, by strengthening rule of law. The Project aims to design and implement an automated case management system for the Court of Cassation; build capacity of staff to use new systems; reduce case delays and improve the provision of judicial services to the public. The second objective is linked to the broader agenda of the Egyptian Government on ensuring greater transparency and legislative quality. The Project works with the Ministry of Justice to build capacities in legislative drafting and strengthen mechanisms for consultation and public participation in the rule-making process.

This conference will launch the project and provide an opportunity to engage in a dialogue and exchange good practices on the Rule of Law. The conference is addressed to officials working in Egypt, representatives of the business sector and civil society, and to the members of the international community.

Agenda

Thursday 25 September 2014

8:15 am - 9:00 am	Welcome Coffee
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Keynote Address: H.E Dr. Naglaa El-Ehwany, Minister of International Cooperation
9:15 am - 11:00 am	Opening Session : Launching of the Project
	<p>Master of Ceremony : Ministry of International Cooperation</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E Dr. Atef Helmy, Minister of Communication and Information Technology • H.E Ahmed Gamal el Din, 2nd Vice President of the Court of Cassation, Member of the Higher Judicial Council, Egypt • Chief Justice Adel Fahmy, Assistant Minister of Justice for International & Cultural Cooperation, Ministry of Justice, Egypt • Rolf Alter, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD • Leila Mokadem, Resident Representative, Egypt Office, African Development Bank <p><i>The presentations will be followed by a signing ceremony with the African Development Bank (10.45-11:00)</i></p>
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Coffee Break
11:30 am - 12:45 pm	Session 2 : Building trust and accountability in justice institutions
	<p>The delivery of effective justice and transparent rule-making can play a critical role in restoring confidence, promoting accountability and, ultimately, restructuring the national economy to promote competitiveness for economic growth and transformation. This session will discuss the crucial role played by the judiciary and transparent rule-making in maintaining the rule of law and its relation to inclusive growth.</p> <p>The session will be introduced and moderated by: Edward Donelan, Senior Advisor, MENA-OECD Governance Programme, OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E Ahmed Gamal El Din, Second vice President of the Court of Cassation, Member of Higher Judicial Council, Egypt • Tony Moussa, Senior Judge Emeritus of the Court of Cassation, France • Professor Willem Konijnenbelt, former Counsel of State, The Netherlands
12:45 pm - 1:00 pm	Concluding Remarks
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch