



Intervention of Mr the Minister in the workshop about “Inclusive Growth”

“It is my honor and pleasure today to be among you on the OECD workshop about Inclusive Growth. First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Darren Walker, the president of Ford Foundation, and Mr. Angel Gurría, the secretary General of OECD, for their kind invitation to take part in this very important event. In my intervention today, I will share with you the experience of Morocco, in fact, the discussion about inclusive growth couldn’t be more timely. Inclusive Growth means that all the components of the society contribute on the growth of the country, but it means also that the benefits and the opportunities of this growth are shared among all these components. Our country is facing three major challenges of development. The first challenge is that our economic performance remains below potential economic growth. Second, we still suffer from the persistence of strong social and territorial inequalities despite marked improvements in social indicators, and the final challenge is the country’s heavy dependence on foreign energy (Our country imports about 95% of its supplies of energy). In this particular context, we believe that the inclusive growth has an important role to play in responding to the pressing challenges and needs of today. Inclusive Growth is about making growth sustainable for a better future of our children. To make this inclusive growth happens; a proactive approach based on four main pillars is needed:

The First pillar is a **high political commitment**, in the case of Morocco, this has been translated into a Constitutional reform consolidating achievements in the field of human rights, promotion of political participation of women and youth, and establishing conditions for open governance. The constitution has come to translate the royal will, aiming to provide Morocco with an advanced regionalization essentially democratic. The main goal is to achieve an integrated and sustainable development (economic, cultural, environmental and social development). Moreover, this great reform paved the way for improving the exercise of rights and freedoms, promoting economic opportunities, reinforcing the capacity of the poorest sections and to protect them against vulnerability, insecurity and exclusion. In addition to the separation of powers, independence of justice and governance, the new Constitution adopted in 2011 has set up a new elected Government with wide prerogatives to lead directly public affairs.



Once installed, the government has made a statement of its medium-term vision. This statement which was adopted in the Moroccan parliament is an ethical and political pact of multi-sectoral objectives, in a new era of political practice under the new Constitution.

The objectives of this program are: strengthening the advanced regionalization and reforming the public administration.

The government program aims also to bring essential to a strong and competitive economy, generating wealth and decent employment and guaranteeing social equity. To this end, the government program aims to develop the social economy, to support the SMEs and to strengthen infrastructure and logistical base.

To control the unemployment, the Government has set a target of reducing the unemployment rate to 8% by 2016. For this, the program focuses on improving the business climate, promoting investment, strengthening territorial and regional dimension of development and support for small and medium enterprises.

On the social side, the Government aims to ensure population access to basic services, through the reform of the public school, the acceleration of the literacy program, the equal access to health...

Integrated pension reform is also listed as a priority for the Government, with the broadening of the base of beneficiaries (professionals, informal sector, handicrafts, and marine fisheries cooperatives).

The second Pillar is [the Sectoral strategies](#), as an instrument of economic transformation. In fact, these proactive strategies aim to accelerate the economic development through the establishment of a macroeconomic framework, the diversification of sources of growth and the improvement of the competitiveness and attractiveness of the Moroccan economy.

Thus, in Morocco, the National Pact for Industrial Emergence has supported the development of new global businesses of the country (automotive aerospace, electronics, off shoring, ICT ...)

Similarly, the Green Morocco Plan aims to modernize agriculture and develop agriculture solidarity, which targets small farmers in marginal areas (some 550 projects targeting 855,000 small farmers all over the country by 2020).



2020 tourism vision was designed to develop each region of Morocco. In this regard, rural areas have been positioned on eco-tourism and sustainable tourism.

For its part, the vision crafts 2015 aims to double sales of handicrafts with high cultural content and consequently to improve the incomes of artisans so to ensure their conditions of living.

The new energy strategy aims to enhance the security of supply and the availability of energy and its widespread availability at reasonable costs. In this context, our country has embarked on an ambitious program and solar wind which enable it to reduce its energy dependence and develop job-creating local industry.

In addition, the National Strategy for the Development of the competitiveness of logistics 2015, aims to support and strengthen sectoral strategies through the creation of an integrated national logistics network stations to optimize and simplify the transport of goods and, consequently creating an additional added value 3 to 5 points of the gross domestic product.

These strategies are complemented by other policies such as those designed to promote a better business climate and investment, and other structuring projects such as the port of TangerMed, High Speed trains, Industrial integrated plateforms...

The **third pillar** is the [high commitment to human development and social cohesion](#), this has been translated in Morocco through different initiatives such as the **INDH** (The National Initiative for Human Development) initiated by His Majesty the King Mohamed VI, in May 2005. INDH aims at strengthening the social action of the Moroccan Government in reducing social deficits and fighting against precariousness and exclusion, mainly in rural and semi-urban areas.

The NIHD aims also at providing health care, counseling, vocational training, as well as reuniting families and reintegrating people into society.

The implementation of the NIHD has been done through five main programs:

- The program for the fight against social exclusion in urban area
- The program for the fight against poverty in rural areas
- The program for fighting against precariousness
- The transversal program



- The territorial upgrading program: Support for health, rural electrification, drinking water, rural roads, education support, support for the financing of small businesses and small projects.

Other programs and initiatives reflect also this high commitment to human development and social cohesion, many examples could be given: Health insurance, the Government has established a Health Insurance Mandatory Basic (AMO) and a Plan of Medical Assistance (RAMED). The program “Tayssir” against school dropout which is a pilot program of conditional cash transfers. FOGARIM, in fact, The Moroccan government has launched an ambitious program of social housing in urban areas, based on three axes: the relocation, rehabilitation of neighborhoods and relocation of slum dwellers. To this end, the Moroccan government has set up a guarantee fund for the population with irregular income “FOGARIM” and a second for the employees of public and private sectors “FOGALOGÉ”.

A new Integrated National Strategy for Youth, being validated, aims to identify young people with low educational level (high school or less) as a priority target group

A new National Strategy for very Small Business aims to promote small enterprises (priorities including access to finance, social security, taxation...)

The social economy is a project which aims at developing income generating activities. As part of the implementation of the strategy to promote the social economy 2010-2020, the "MOURAFAKA" program was initiated to support the post-creation of new cooperatives, so to ensure highest levels of entrepreneurship and competitive innovation.

The **Fourth pillar**, is the regional integration, no inclusive growth could be achieved if we don't involve the regions in the whole process. Thus, all the initiatives, strategies and programs mentioned above couldn't be designed, promoted and even less put in place without integrating the regional dimension.

Ladies and gentlemen, the economic growth models as implemented in our societies today, have not equitably distribute benefits, inequalities are still here, there and everywhere. It's time to reverse the trend. It's time to engage a deep reflection on a real inclusive growth that benefits the whole society”