

AGENDA



Seminar 2: Anti-corruption and business integrity

Building Consensus for Economic and Social Reform in Lebanon

July 10, 2019

Economic and Social Council of Lebanon
Downtown, Nejmeh Square, Building 200
Beirut, Lebanon

Second seminar: Anti-corruption and business integrity *Building Consensus for Economic and Social Reform in Lebanon*

July 10, 2019 ♦ Economic and Social Council, Beirut, Lebanon

About the project

“**Building Consensus for Economic and Social Reform in Lebanon**” is a project supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and consists of a training programme for the members of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon and key stakeholders. The project will be implemented by the OECD under the [MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Competitiveness for development](#).

The programme will facilitate first-hand knowledge from other Economic and Social Councils around the world to see how they have articulated their work to become relevant in their respective contexts. It will present consultation mechanisms, participatory approaches and solid analytical tools, which are essential for the ESC to effectively build consensus around complex reform processes. The programme will also focus on key policy areas under the government’s reform agenda, including: anti-corruption and integrity; the social impact of fiscal reforms; and business climate reforms.

Description of the seminar

Anti-corruption is a top priority in Lebanon and a cornerstone of citizens’ trust in the government.

While fighting corruption has moved to the forefront of the political agenda in Lebanon, with the ongoing efforts to adopt a National Anticorruption Strategy, the phenomenon is still perceived as very high. This acts as a key obstacle to economic growth and business development impacting negatively the business environment.

The OECD has taken a long-lasting stance in tackling corruption, especially through the implementation of the [Convention on Combatting Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions](#). In the MENA region, the OECD is working with governments, private sector and civil society to promote a culture of integrity and build stronger and more effective anti-corruption frameworks; as well as knowledge on best practices and mechanisms to enhance transparency in governments.

The second seminar, “Anti-corruption and integrity”, will introduce international standards and ways to support the Government of Lebanon’s reforms on these topics. The seminar will provide an overview of international standards, showcase relevant regional and international multi-stakeholder initiatives in the fight against corruption and their related tools. It will also comprise a multi-stakeholder discussion on the current agenda for reform in Lebanon, in particular the new National Anti-Corruption Strategy, and the role that ESC can play in its implementation.

This seminar could provide pathways to strengthen the expertise and role of the Economic and Social Council in advising policy-makers on anti-corruption and favouring a more inclusive and open Government. The seminar is intended for members of the ESC as well as representatives of the Lebanese judiciary, and all relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

Logistical information

- Simultaneous interpretation will be available in Arabic/French/English.
- The seminar will take place at the premises of the Economic and Social Council, Downtown Beirut.

Contacts

- Ms. Margot BOUHNİK, Middle East and Africa Division, OECD (Margot.BOUHNIK@oecd.org)
- Ms. Nayla ABI KARAM, Chargée de missions du Président, Economic and Social Council, Lebanon (nayla.abk@gmail.com)

Programme
Wednesday 10 July, 2019

9:30-10:00	Welcoming remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Charles ARBID, President, Economic and Social Council of Lebanon • Mr. Carlos CONDE, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, OECD • H.E. Dr. Georg BIRGELEN, Ambassador of Germany to Lebanon • H.E. Mr. Salim JREISSATI, Minister of State for Presidency Affairs, Former Minister of Justice, Lawyer
10:00-11:00	Session 1 : International standards and legal instruments on anticorruption
	<p>A series of legally binding and non-binding anti-corruption instruments have been adopted at regional and global levels in support of establishing corruption-free societies. While Lebanon has ratified, and is consequently bound to implement, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), other instruments, such as the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, also impact foreign businesses active in the country, bound to abide by the obligations set out in their home jurisdictions. This introductory session is aimed at raising awareness on the international standards set out in these instruments and their implications for Lebanon.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Ziyad BAROUD, Former Minister of Interior & Municipalities, Lawyer <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Patrick MOULETTE, Head of the Anti-Corruption Division, OECD • Mr. Emmanuel FARHAT, Senior International Affairs Officer, Anti-Corruption Agency, France • Judge Fawzi KHAMIS, Attorney General at the Court of Audit, Lebanon
11:00-11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15-12:30	Session 2 : Multi-stakeholder initiatives to promote business integrity
	<p>Corruption is a multi-faceted offence which affects both the public and private sectors and which is very difficult, complex in nature and not easy to overcome. This is why efforts to tackle corruption require the engagement of multiple stakeholders. It also requires more practical mechanisms and strategies accompanied by strong legal and professional institutional frameworks. This session will present concrete examples of multi-stakeholder initiatives between the private sector, civil society, and governments to foster anti-corruption practices, including collective actions and High-Level Reporting Mechanisms (HLRM). Speakers will share their experience, address the possible challenges encountered and describe the effective outcome of the actions. Panellists will further distil ideas and techniques from best practices, offering a selection of valuable insights to the participants.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Ghina MAWAS, Lawyer and Professor, Member of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Iaroslav GREGIRCHAK, Deputy Business Ombudsman, Business Ombudsman Council, Ukraine • Anti-Corruption Agency, France • Ms. Diane PALLEZ, Policy Analyst, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD

12:30-14:00	Session 3 : Panel discussion: the National Anti-Corruption Strategy of Lebanon
	<p>This session will focus on the opportunities and challenges for the implementation of the anti-corruption strategy in Lebanon, including the role that the ESC may play in this regard. Issues discussed:</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ghassan MOUKHEIBER, Former MP, Lawyer, Coordinator of the Group of the “Lebanese Parliamentarians Against Corruption” (LebPAC) <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Patrick MOULETTE, Head of the Anti-Corruption Division, OECD • Mr. Antonis BALTAS, Special Associate by the General Secretariat Against Corruption, Greece • Ms. Natacha SARKIS, Anti-corruption Officer, Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform/United Nations Development Programme (OMSAR/UNDP).
14:00-15:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Experts

International experts



Mr. Antonis BALTAS, Special Associate by the General Secretariat Against Corruption, Greece

Mr. Antonis Baltas is an independent Lawyer and since 2015 he is a Special Associate by the General Secretariat against Corruption (GSAC). Mr. Baltas has held several positions related to anti-corruption, including as member of the Strategy Committee against money laundering (2017-2018), focal point for the Country Review Report of Greece on the implementation of articles 5-14 and 51-59 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for the review cycle 2016-2021 (2017-2019), and member of the Greek delegation of the OECD Working Group on Bribery (providing expertise on the subject of the liability of legal persons for corruption offences (December 2017). Antonis has also been an expert-participant on the country review of Germany on the implementation of articles 5-14 and 51-59 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for the review cycle 2016-2021 (2018), and a member of the GRECO Evaluation Team which carried out the 5th Round GRECO evaluation of the Slovak Republic . In 2002 he obtained an LLM on Criminal Law from the Democritus University of Thrace.

Mr. Iaroslav GREGIRCHAK, Deputy Business Ombudsman, Business Ombudsman Council, Ukraine



Mr. Iaroslav GREGIRCHAK is a senior semi-governmental official appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to the team managing multi-stakeholder ombudsman mechanism. He is a seasoned lawyer with experience in commercial law reform and strong interest in ADR/international arbitration. Iaroslav possesses more than 20 years of experience earned with the Business Ombudsman Council Ukraine, several international law firms, the World Bank and USAID. His areas of expertise include: (1) government relations; (2) ADR/arbitration; (3) administrative

law and procedure; (4) anti-corruption/law enforcement; (5) tax and customs; (6) corporate governance; (7) public finance/SNG debt; (8) antimonopoly/competition; (9) secured transactions; (10) cross-border corporate finance and M&A.



Mr. Emmanuel FARHAT, Senior International Affairs Officer, French Anti-corruption Agency

Mr. Emmanuel Farhat is a French magistrate with post-graduate training at the National School for the Judiciary in France. Before joining the French Anticorruption Agency, in September 2017, he worked in the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Austria. Prior to that, he held various positions at the national level as a prosecutor, at the Counter Terrorism Bureau of the French Ministry of Justice, as well as in the Courts in Evry and in Paris (division for investigations on financial crimes). In his current position, he works as Senior International Affairs Officer at the French Anticorruption Agency. He is the coordinator for all international related policies and partnerships at the bilateral and multilateral levels, representing the AFA in several anticorruption fora, including OECD, GRECO, United Nations, G7 and G20.

OECD experts



Mr. Patrick MOULETTE, Head of the Anti-Corruption Division

Patrick Moulette is the Head of the Anti-Corruption Division in the OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs. In this role, Mr. Moulette designs and manages the work programme of the 44-country Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions, including the evaluation process to monitor the implementation of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and its associated Recommendations. Mr Moulette joined the OECD in 1991 as a member of the Secretariat for the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which safeguards the global

financial system against money laundering and terrorist financing. In November 1995, he was promoted to Executive Secretary of the FATF. Previously, he worked for the Department of the Treasury of the French Ministry of Finance. Mr Moulette is a graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies ("Sciences-Po") and has Master's degrees in Public Law and in Corporate Law.



Mr. Carlos CONDE, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD

Mr. Carlos Conde is Head of the Middle East and Africa Division in the Global Relations Secretariat of the OECD. On this capacity, he leads the implementation of MENA-OECD Initiative on Governance and Competitiveness for Development. Since 2005, the Initiative promotes policy dialogue on governance, investment and private sector development between MENA and OECD countries. During this period, the MENA Initiative has introduced the process of OECD peer review in the MENA region,

supported processes of reform at the national level and conducted capacity building activities. Carlos Conde is also responsible for the collaboration with South Africa as key partner of the OECD. Prior to his current position, Carlos Conde was deputy Head of Division at the Governance Reviews and Partnerships Division of the Public Governance Directorate of the OECD, leading the work of the MENA-OECD Governance programme and promoting the collaboration with Latin American countries. Before joining the OECD, Mr. Conde was associate professor of political science and public policy at the University of Granada in Spain. In this position, Mr. Conde led several projects of academic co-operation, research and network building between Arab and European universities. Mr. Conde had visiting positions at the University of Harvard (1995-96) and Al Akhawayn University of Morocco, where he lectured between 2001 and 2003. Mr. Conde holds a PhD in Political Science and Public Administration from the Complutense University of Madrid.



Ms. Diane PALLEZ, Policy Analyst, Global Relations Secretariat

Diane Pallez is a Policy Analyst in the Middle East and Africa Division of the Global Relations Secretariat of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, where she works on business integrity and investment policies. Prior to joining the OECD, she practiced as a lawyer for several years in international business law firms, in Paris and North Africa, where she acquired significant experience in investment laws as well as on anti-corruption regulations. She also worked as a consultant at the International Finance Corporation (IFC) – The

World Bank Group, in Washington DC. Diane is an Attorney-at-Law admitted to practice in France (Paris Bar) and in the US (New-York Bar). She graduated with an advanced Master in Business Law from the University Panthéon-Assas - Paris II and with a LLM –Master's degree from Georgetown Law University, Washington DC.