

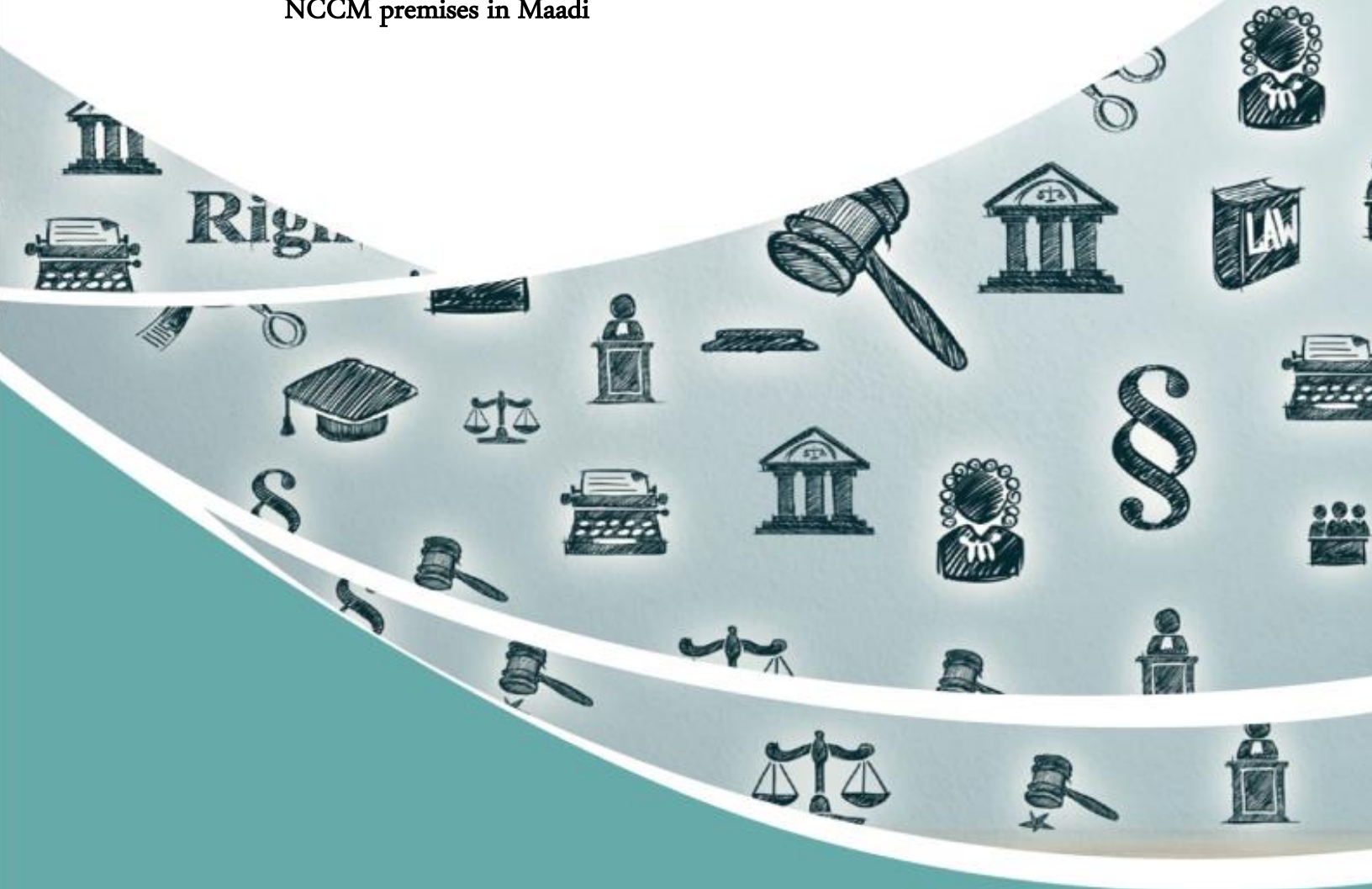


# Towards Child-Friendly Justice in Egypt: Understanding justice needs and child- centred pathways

*Training for NCCM Child helpline staff*

20 - 21 November 2023

NCCM premises in Maadi



## The Project<sup>1</sup>

The objective of this project is to support the development of a child-friendly justice system in Egypt and better protect children in contact with the law. Aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030, the National Child Strategy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the project is implemented by the OECD with the financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The project facilitates high-level engagement in support of the objectives of the Strategic Framework and National Plan for Childhood and Motherhood in Egypt 2018-2030. It contributes to strengthening the Rule of Law and avails experiences from different OECD countries, particularly through peer-to-peer exchanges and capacity-building workshops with the Government of Egypt.

As part of the MENA-OECD Governance Programme, the project will provide support to the Government of Egypt in identifying key challenges and opportunities, building a Roadmap for reform and raising public awareness on the importance of child-friendly justice.

The two main outcomes of the project are as follows:

- Improved capacities of child-justice stakeholders to better protect children in contact with the justice system;
- Improved governance and coordination mechanisms among key child justice stakeholders.

The OECD aims to support the Government of Egypt to further enhance and empower the coordination and protection role of the child justice system. The support will be carried out in accordance with the objectives of the Strategic Framework & National Plan for Childhood and Motherhood.

## Objective of the training

The objective of this training is to support the Child helpline staff to gain a deeper understanding of international child-friendly procedures on case management when dealing with children at risk, victims or witnesses, and children who have experienced traumas, drawing upon good practices from OECD member countries and international child helplines that contribute to the better protection of children. It will foster a hands-on approach for a technical discussion and exercise focusing on the challenges and opportunities related to improving the NCCM's child-helpline and the child protection system drawing on the findings of the OECD Strategic Review. The training will facilitate the exchange of expertise, international practices, and standards of international access to justice for children, based on a child-centred approach.

## Target participants

The training will gather the NCCM child helpline staff from technical specialists, social and psychological workers.

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<sup>1</sup> [Governance - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(oecd.org\)](https://www.oecd.org/)

# AGENDA

09:30 – 09:45	<b>Opening session</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Eng. Nevine Osman</b>, Secretary General of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood</li><li>• <b>Mr. Amr Soliman</b>, Project Lead and Policy Analyst, OECD</li></ul>
09:45 – 11:15	<b>The child-helpline as a crucial tool for protecting children: International standards and good practices on case management and resolving child cases</b>
	<p>The first half of this session will provide a comprehensive overview of NCCM child helpline operations and the structure of how child cases are currently managed and resolved based on a child-centered approach. The second half will contrast mechanisms employed in OECD countries to promote interagency coordination and support expedient case resolution based on the best interest of the child. The session aims to provide insights into successful approaches and emphasise the significance of consistently prioritizing the best interests of the child.</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NCCM representative</b></li><li>• <b>Ms. Nicole Drew</b>, Barrister &amp; Solicitor, former Director of the Taskforce Response Unit (Women's Safety and Youth Justice), Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Queensland, Australia and OECD peer</li></ul>
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Open Discussion</b>
12:00 – 12:20	<b>Coffee break</b>
12:20 – 13:20	<b>Practical exercise</b>
	<p>This session will provide hands-on approach on the important role played by the child helplines and examine the current coordination mechanisms, child interview techniques and other practices employed by the NCCM's child-helpline through practical exercise involving the NCCM child helpline staff.</p> <p>The session will help analyse the current child helpline system and child protection system in Egypt, and explore the challenges and opportunities related to improving coordination mechanisms and effectiveness of the system.</p> <p><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ms. Nicole Drew</b>, Barrister &amp; Solicitor, former Director of the Taskforce Response Unit (Women's Safety and Youth Justice), Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Queensland, Australia and OECD peer</li><li>• <b>Ms. Marwa Salah</b>, Consultant in the OECD Project</li></ul>
13:20 – 14:30	<b>Open Discussion</b>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>Recap and key messages</b>
15:00	<b>Closing and lunch</b>

## The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is the agency for international cooperation of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). The SDC is responsible for the overall coordination with other federal authorities of development and cooperation with Eastern Europe as well as for humanitarian aid delivered by the Swiss Confederation.

The Swiss international cooperation, which is an integral part of the Federal Council's foreign policy, aims to alleviate need and poverty around the world, to foster respect for human rights, to promote democracy and to conserve the environment. It fosters economic self-reliance and state autonomy, contributes to the improvement of production conditions, helps address environmental problems, and ensures better access to education and basic healthcare services.

## The OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that promotes policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. It is made up of 38 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. It collaborates with governments to understand what drives economic, social and environmental change, and measures productivity and global flows of trade and investment.

## The OECD and Access to Justice for Children

The OECD supports its Member and partner countries in achieving more responsive and people-centered justice services and access to justice as core components of inclusive growth, sound democracies and a thriving investment climate. Vulnerable groups, including children and youth, face particular barriers to access justice, such as complex procedures, high costs and lack of legal empowerment. In particular, children have specific needs and rights but tend to face heightened difficulties in getting their legal needs addressed, which exacerbates the likelihood of trauma and impedes child well-being. The OECD supports countries in moving towards child-friendly justice that puts children at the centre of design and delivery of justice services and ensures their needs are met.

## 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 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.



# CONTACTS

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