



**Good Governance for Development
(GfD)
in Arab Countries**

**1st Meeting of the Thematic Working Group 2 on
E-Government and Administrative Simplification**

12/13 September 2005

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

ANNOTATED AGENDA

11 SEPTEMBER 2005

Welcome cocktail hosted by Dubai at 19.00 at the Dubai School of Government, Convention Tower, Level 13

12 SEPTEMBER 2005

9.00 – 10.00	<p><u>OPENING AND INTRODUCTION</u> THE OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE OF THE GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT (GfD) INITIATIVE IN ARAB COUNTRIES AND THEMATIC WORKING GROUP 2</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Nabil Ali Alyousuf</p>
9.00 – 9.30 (approx.)	<p>Opening remarks by the Arab chairperson, Mr. Nabil Ali Alyousuf, Assistant Director General, The Executive Office, and the co-chairing OECD country representatives. <i>Tour de table</i> with self-introductions by working group participants.</p> <p><i>Welcome and Comments</i> (5 min. each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Kuk-Hwan Jeong, Policy Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs (MOGAHA), Korea ○ Mr. Vincenzo Schioppa, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Delegation of Italy to the OECD ○ Dr. Yasar Jarrar, Executive Dean, Dubai School of Government, Dubai <p>Short presentation by Mr. Rolf Alter, Deputy Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD, on the purpose, objectives and structure of the Good Governance for Development (GfD) Initiative in Arab countries and of the Thematic Working Group 2 with a focus on explaining how the themes of e-government and administrative simplification fit in the overall framework of the GfD initiative. The presentation will be followed by a short update by Mr. Ragaa Makharita, Team Leader, UNDP, on the results of the WG 4 on Public Service Delivery, Public-Private Partnership and Regulatory Reform and make few announcements of upcoming GfD meetings organised by UNDP.</p>
9.30 – 10.00 (approx.)	Discussion
	<p>Meeting Document: MD1) Preliminary draft technical document for WG 2 participants in view of providing an overview of the Concept and Implementation Mechanism of the GfD Initiative</p>
	<p>Proposed questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the working group be organised to facilitate open dialogue and help you better achieve its goals? • How can information and ideas generated in the different working groups be shared? How can policy dialogue between OECD and Arab countries be promoted?
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee break

10.30 – 13.30	<p>SESSION 1: PRESENTATION OF STRATEGIC APPROACHES AND CHALLENGES TO E-GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLIFICATION BY THE PARTICIPATING ARAB COUNTRIES</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Vincenzo Schioppa</p>
<p>Country presentations (max 10 min per country)</p> <p>Final participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Abu Dhabi -Algeria -Bahrain -Dubai -Egypt -Iraq -Jordan -Lebanon -Morocco -Syria -Sudan -Tunisia 	<p>The aim of this session is to allow participating Arab countries to present their national approach to e-government and administrative simplification and to provide an overview of the main issues and challenges they face in implementing policies in these areas. In preparing their presentations, Arab countries are invited to follow the draft questionnaire/guidelines for country presentations and data collection, which provide a common framework for comparison of experiences.</p> <p>Current or planned bilateral and multilateral co-operation initiatives in the area of e-government and administrative simplification can also be addressed during the presentations, with a view to better understanding co-operation frameworks already in place and planning on the basis of current priorities and needs.</p> <p>After each set of country presentations, participants will be allowed to provide comments and ask questions. This would allow participating Arab countries to exchange ideas and discuss their national approaches and challenges to e-government and administrative simplification and to start identifying key areas of interest for policy dialogue. Invited OECD countries' experts will be given the opportunity to comment on the Arab countries' presentations in support of the discussion.</p> <p>Insight from OECD countries: During the session Italy and Korea will present their experiences of e-government and administrative simplification (5-7 min each).</p> <p>Order of presentations: Egypt, Jordan, Dubai, Korea</p>
	<p>Meeting Documents: MD2) Background document: Implementing E-Government in OECD countries: experiences and challenges; MD3) Background document: Implementing Administrative Simplification in OECD countries: experiences and challenges; MD4) Collection of Arab countries' presentations</p>
	<p>Proposed questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you consider to be the <u>common features</u> of Arab countries' approach to e-government and administrative simplification emerging from country presentations? How do they act to impede or support progress on e-government and administrative simplification in the region? • What are the <u>key challenges</u> Arab countries face in implementing e-government and measures to achieve administrative simplification? • What <u>lessons learned and good practices</u> from Arab countries' experience with the implementation of e-government and administrative simplification can be identified and exchanged?
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch hosted by Dubai at the Dubai School of Government

14.30 – 17.30	<u>SESSION 1 (CONTINUED)</u> Chair: Dr. Kuk-Hwan Jeong
	Order of presentations: Lebanon, Italy, Algeria Discussion. Order of presentations: Bahrain, Tunisia, Morocco Discussion.
20.00	Dinner hosted by Dubai at the Dubai School of Government

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9.00 – 10.30	<p><u>SESSION 2: IDENTIFICATION OF REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR E-GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLIFICATION IN ARAB COUNTRIES</u></p> <p>Chair: Dr. Kuk-Hwan Jeong</p>
	<p>Building on country presentations in session 1, the aim of this session is to allow participants to discuss and identify regional priorities for e-government and administrative simplification, which will provide a key input for the definition of the new Terms of Reference for the WG (Issues for Regional Policy Dialogue for WG 2).</p>
	<p>Meeting Document: MD5) Draft Issues for Regional Policy Dialogue for WG 2</p>
	<p>Proposed questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would be the three highest priorities areas/aspects of e-government that you would like to deal with in the future? What objectives would you aim to achieve? • Which of these areas/aspects of e-government and administrative simplification do you consider to be key priority for the Arab countries in the MENA region?
10.30 – 11.00	<p>Coffee Break</p>
11.00 – 12.30	<p><u>SESSION 3: DISCUSSION AND FINALISATION OF THE WORK PLAN FOR 2005-2006 FOR THE WORKING GROUP</u></p> <p>Chair: Mr. Vincenzo Schioppa</p>
	<p>The aim of this session is to discuss and define the work plan for 2005-2006 for the Working Group, with a focus on defining expected deliverables (e.g. country assessments, national/regional action plans, pilot projects, specific seminars and conferences), refining the draft questionnaire/guidelines for country presentations and data collection and determining a schedule.</p>
	<p>Meeting Document: MD1) Preliminary draft technical document for WG 2 participants in view of providing an overview of the Concept and Implementation Mechanism of the GfD Initiative; MD6) Draft Questionnaire/Guidelines for Country Presentations and Data Collection</p>
	<p>Proposed questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which of the programme outputs would you be most committed to deliver to maximise the benefit of your participation in the working group? Do you agree with the proposed time-frame for achieving them? • How would you improve the proposed questionnaire/guidelines to make it a useful tool for data collection on Arab countries' experience on e-government and administrative simplification?
12.30 – 13.00	<p><u>CLOSING SESSION: WRAP-UP AND CONCLUSIONS</u></p> <p>Chair: Mr. Nabil Ali Al Yousuf</p>