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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Report

Tenth session of the Committee on Social Development Rabat, 8-9 September 2015

Summary

The tenth session of the Committee on Social Development was held in Rabat, on 8 and 9 September 2015. The session provided an official platform to discuss the programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in the field of social development and methods for its development. Participants also assessed the accomplishments of the ESCWA Social Development Division over the previous biennium and reviewed reports prepared by the Division on priority issues in the field of social development.

Items on the agenda of the tenth session of the Committee covered progress in the implementation of social development-related activities and recommendations in the field of social development under the ESCWA programme of work since the ninth session of the Committee, and the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 in the field of social development. Under the agenda, participants also considered reports on priority issues for achieving social development in the Arab region, including the population dimension in achieving sustainable development, extending social protection to persons with disabilities and informal workers in the agricultural sector, and participation as a lever for social justice.

The present report contains a brief account of the main issues raised during the presentations and discussions, and of the recommendations made by the Committee under each agenda item.

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Introduction

1. The tenth session of the Committee on Social Development was held pursuant to Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) resolution 198 (XVII) of 31 May 1994 concerning the establishment of a committee on social development within the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which was endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1994/27 of 26 July 1994, and pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee at its ninth session, held in Amman on 12 and 13 October 2013.
2. The present report outlines the main issues discussed and the measures recommended by the Committee with respect to each agenda item of the tenth session. The Committee unanimously adopted the recommendations contained in the present report at its final session, held on 9 September 2015.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT ITS TENTH SESSION

3. At its final session, the Committee issued the following recommendations.

A. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO ESCWA MEMBER STATES

4. The Committee submitted the following recommendations to the Governments of ESCWA member States:

(a) To work with all social and demographic groups, especially young people, older persons and international migrants (both men and women) to formulate development policies that meet the needs of all those groups and that protect human rights;

(b) To develop and implement evidence-based development strategies and policies, established on data disaggregated by demographic characteristics such as age, sex, disability, location and migrant status; to disseminate and mainstream those strategies and policies; and to implement related projects;

(c) To establish institutional mechanisms based on participation and consultation and to take necessary legal and institutional measures to include all stakeholders, among them government officials, members of parliament, citizens, civil society organizations and the private sector, in developing, implementing and monitoring public policies;

(d) To support the application of policies aimed at achieving social inclusion for all social groups, especially the most vulnerable, including people with disabilities and informal sector workers, by establishing and promoting social protection floors; to reform policy-making structures; to support inclusive development in rural and urban areas; and to improve indicators used in policy-making;

(e) To implement the Tunis Declaration on Social Justice in the Arab Region at the national level by including its concepts in national and local development plans; and to enhance social justice and equality through a comprehensive and integrated participatory approach to development planning at the national level, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(f) To form an intersessional expert group under the Social Development Committee tasked with following up on issues pertinent to persons with disabilities in the period between Committee sessions, and to present a report on its achievements at the following Committee session;

(g) To note the results of the questionnaire on communication and outreach mechanisms with member States; and to authorize the secretariat to develop a more comprehensive questionnaire to be filled and returned to the secretariat within two months.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO THE SECRETARIAT

5. The Committee submitted the following recommendations to the ESCWA secretariat:

(a) To take into account comments from member States when implementing the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 in the field of social development, in line with resources available to ESCWA, with special focus on issues relating to social justice, migration, social protection, peace, social cohesion and inclusion, and young people;

(b) To work with member States on including the population dimension when formulating development policies, plans and programmes so as to empower social and demographic groups, especially young people, older persons, migrants, displaced populations and persons with disabilities, and to protect their rights and facilitate their social inclusion;

(c) To enhance member States' technical capacity in developing, implementing and monitoring national development plans aimed at achieving social justice through human rights by implementing capacity-building, research and analysis programmes on public policies;

(d) To provide necessary research and technical support to mainstream a participatory approach in formulating development policies for Governments and stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the private sector;

(e) To prepare a guide on including social justice concepts in national and local development plans, in accordance with the Tunis Declaration; and to provide necessary programmes to build the capacity of States and provide training on applying the Declaration;

(f) To build member States' capacity in developing public policies that are inclusive to all and that ensure social cohesion, through training, research and technical cooperation at the national and regional levels;

(g) To support member States in streamlining the goals, targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda in national development strategies and in their implementation;

(h) To support member States in their efforts and strategies to eradicate poverty, with special focus on the most vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, young people, older persons, marginalized communities and informal sector workers;

(i) To provide member States with technical support in building national capacities for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(j) To enhance cooperation between the ESCWA Social Development Committee and the Council of Arab Ministers for Social Affairs and other entities of the League of Arab States.

II. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

A. IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS SINCE THE NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Agenda item 4)

6. The Committee included the item on progress achieved in the implementation of social development-related activities and recommendations on the agenda for its tenth session to inform member State representatives of the work undertaken by ESCWA under subprogramme 2 on social development and on the implementation of recommendations issued at the ninth session of the Committee, held in Amman on 12 and

13 October 2013; and to offer the opportunity to discuss these topics and express opinions on them and on other matters related to social development.

7. The Social Development Division considered this agenda item with reference to document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/3 that provided a review of the progress made in implementing activities set out in the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 and of activities implemented in 2013 not mentioned in a report on the implementation of social-development related activities submitted to the Committee at its ninth session. Those activities covered the following areas: holding meetings, workshops and training sessions; preparing reports, studies, publications, indicators and technical material; building national capacities; implementing field projects; and providing advisory services in the field of social development to work with member States on identifying the best methods to develop integrated social policies.

8. The Committee noted the information provided in a secretariat report on the implementation of development-related activities and recommendations since its ninth session, whose implementation progress was acclaimed in the discussions. Participants also considered the evolving situation in the region, especially social issues that might require concerted efforts from ESCWA to resolve.

B. PRIORITY ISSUES IN ACHIEVING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE ARAB REGION
(Agenda item 5)

1. The population dimension in achieving sustainable development

9. The Committee examined agenda item 5 on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/4 (Part I) on the population dimension in achieving sustainable development, given the importance of population dynamics (population growth, age structures, urbanization and migration) for the sustainable development process and their effects on its social, economic and environmental pillars. The document also covered population priorities set out in the proposed sustainable development goals, and their clear reference to the characteristics of four social and demographic groups, namely young people, international migrants, older persons and persons with disabilities. The document also tackled development challenges faced by vulnerable groups in the Arab region that, in addition to the aforementioned groups, also included social and demographic groups at high risk of discrimination.

10. The document indicated cross-cutting issues in relation to resolving population challenges between the sustainable development goals and the 2013 Cairo Declaration entitled “Development challenges and population dynamics in a changing Arab world”. It concluded with a set of recommendations in which member States committed themselves to supporting preparations for a post-2015 development agenda, provided that particular attention be paid to the population dimension in the final draft of the sustainable development goals given its importance to achieving sustainable development.

11. Mr. Fadi bou Ali, Coordinator of the National Programme for Local Socio-economic Development in Lebanon, said that the population dimension could be used to achieve sustainable development in Lebanon by tackling the issues of four social groups that the Lebanese Government would provide with programmes and projects, namely older persons, young people, persons with special needs and international migrants. He added that the Lebanese Government had put in place a plan in response to the flow of Syrian refugees, although Lebanon was not signatory to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

12. In the ensuing discussion, participants noted the following:

(a) The importance of taking into account changes in the population pyramid and their effects on social development plans and programmes, especially in relation to providing employment opportunities and expanding social protection to the most vulnerable groups, including young people, older persons, informal sector workers and migrants;

(b) The importance of developing and implementing social programmes to tackle unprecedented challenges currently facing the region, of finding methods to empower countries to maintain their Arab identities, of moving forward with economic and social development programmes in view of those challenges, and of developing national response plans to deal with the influx of refugees;

(c) The importance of taking into consideration the social consequences of war and instability in several Arab countries when formulating development policies and strategies on population changes aimed at achieving social cohesion and inclusive development;

(d) The importance of including the population dimension in development plans and of focusing on all demographic groups, especially the most vulnerable, so as to identify requirements for their social inclusion, and of providing evidence and data to determine the current state of affairs so as to build capacities for the development of evidence-based policies and strategies.

*2. Extending social protection to persons with disabilities and informal workers
in the agricultural sector*

13. The Committee examined this item on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/4(Part II) on extending social protection to include all persons, given that it is a vital public policy tool for poverty reduction, strengthening capacity, reducing inequality, tackling injustice and building cohesive and stable societies. The document reviewed social protection in Arab countries, focusing on challenges faced by some groups in accessing such protection, especially informal workers in the agricultural sector and their families and persons with disabilities. The document indicated that men had greater access to social welfare and health insurance than women. It also set out the key mechanisms of social protection in the Arab region, namely contribution-based social protection programmes available to formal sector employees, government subsidies for fuel and food, and unsubsidized directed social protection such as remittances.

14. The document stated that social protection is a right mentioned in the 2030 Agenda, noting that not providing the necessary social protection, pensions and healthcare to marginalized groups threatened social cohesion. The document concluded with a set of recommendations to Governments on the need to include all stakeholders in formulating social protection policies, to launch national dialogues on reforms, to tackle structural deprivation, to secure sufficient funding for social protection, to eliminate inequalities and divisions in the provision of services, to collect detailed, categorized and reliable data, and to increase efforts to implement legislation and policies on social protection.

15. The discussion focused on the following issues:

(a) The importance of implementing methods for providing comprehensive social protection to all citizens, especially vulnerable and marginalized groups including persons with disabilities, women, rural workers, and informal sector workers through regulation and support to small projects in the agricultural sector; of supporting the service sector in cities; and of funding small enterprises;

(b) The importance of establishing a social protection floor; of identifying tools, methods and channels for providing social protection to groups excluded from social protection programmes by offering conditional and unconditional financial and in-kind support and establishing a social protection floor for all, starting with the poorest and most marginalized groups; and of considering adopting a hierarchy for social protection policies and programmes until comprehensive protection policies are reached;

(c) The importance of establishing a database to be used in developing social protection policies and programmes, so as to improve their effectiveness, to target groups excluded from social protection, to reduce fragmentation and duplication of social protection programmes, and to guarantee access to assistance and benefits for groups excluded from social welfare and protection;

(d) The importance of focusing on providing social protection and adopting rights-based policies and programmes aimed at including persons with disabilities in Arab societies;

(e) The importance of internal coordination within a country regarding persons with disabilities. Participants considered a draft decision on the rights of persons with disabilities to be submitted to the Arab Parliament for adoption, aimed at providing support to countries in amending their data and legislation on persons with disabilities.

3. Participation as a lever for social justice

16. The Committee reviewed the item on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/4(Part III), which highlighted the great importance given to social justice in Arab Governments' priorities, especially given that achieving social justice is a vital need in the Arab region as a whole, not only in countries undergoing political transitions. At the twenty-eight ESCWA session, held in Tunis from 15 to 18 September 2014, States reaffirmed their commitment to achieving social justice and considered common challenges that hampered meeting that commitment, such as continuing poverty and inequality, lack of basic goods and services for all and a rise in unemployment. The document indicated that steady growth in the Arab region over the past decades had not resulted in sustained welfare for all. Consequently, the development model should be reviewed in line with the values of justice enshrined in Arab and Muslim culture.

17. The document affirmed the importance of active citizen participation in all areas, given its significance to achieving social justice. It reviewed key challenges impeding social justice, participation and voice, stressing the need to develop participation-based inclusive social policies. It also evaluated successful participation experiences in the region as an approach for achieving social justice at the institutional, social, economic and political levels. It concluded with a set of recommendations that member States could refer to for guidance in implementing and promoting civil participation, in accordance with the principles of social justice.

18. The discussion focused on the following issues:

(a) The importance of clarifying the reasons behind increases in inequality between Arab countries despite the success of some in reducing poverty; of highlighting the successful experiences of several countries in addressing poverty, inequality, inclusion and participation; and of identifying methods and mechanisms for enhancing social justice, including legal frameworks, laws and institutions; and of adopting participatory-based approaches and frameworks;

(b) The importance of supporting and strengthening national capacities in the field of social justice and participation by providing capacity-building programmes to include social justice in national development plans, strategies and policies to build the capacity of public institutions and strengthen their role, so as to achieve the goals of social justice and to institutionalize participation mechanisms;

(c) The importance of expanding the concept of social justice, especially in view of the social and political challenges faced by the region; of increasing the scope of capacity-building programmes in the field of social justice; of providing evidence, data and technical support programmes; and of sharing success stories that could be emulated.

C. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017 IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Agenda item 6)

19. The Committee reviewed item 6 on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/5, which set out expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, as well as activities and their expected results, the programme's strategies and external factors affecting its implementation. Subprogramme 2 on social development aims to build the capacity of member States in adopting and implementing rights-based social

policies that enhance social justice and achieve inclusive and equitable participation-based economic and social development. Expected accomplishments for the biennium 2016-2017 include the following: providing services to governmental and expert meetings; preparing specialized literature, publications, booklets and technical material; and organizing technical cooperation activities such as advisory services, training sessions, workshops and field projects, in line with requests from member States.

20. In the ensuing discussion, participants covered the following points:

(a) The importance of taking into account proposals contained in the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 when implementing ESCWA activities. The aim is to build member State capacity in adopting and implementing social policies based on rights and social justice, which result in inclusive, equitable and sustainable economic and social development based on participation. Participants also stressed that the secretariat's efforts should be directed towards providing necessary support to member States in including the goals, targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda in their development programmes;

(b) Participants discussed migration, given its significant economic and social consequences on Arab and neighbouring countries. They requested that migration should be included in the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 by developing specific programmes to study the needs of migrants and refugees, by identifying each country's contribution to implementing those policies, and by determining the potential role of international and non-governmental organizations. Participants also discussed the effects of refugee flows on the social development of host countries and on their populations;

(c) Participants requested the ESCWA secretariat to strengthen technical cooperation programmes and build capacities for developing policies, strategies and programmes related to social justice, poverty reduction and informal sector workers. They also requested the secretariat to build States' capacities to ensure the social inclusion of persons with disabilities, young people, older persons and marginalized communities, taking into account country specificities and development priorities when developing and implementing technical guidance and cooperation programmes and activities;

(d) Participants affirmed the need to prepare a social justice guide and hold training workshops to build capacities related to the guide;

(e) Participants stressed that the secretariat should strengthen cooperation, coordination and the exchange of experiences and lessons learned between Arab countries on approaches to social issues, especially given that the current situation in the region might require regional approaches and solutions to many problems, prominently challenges resulting from all forms of migration including internal displacement, international migration and economic migration and from disability;

(f) Participants affirmed the importance of strengthening cooperation between ESCWA and regional, international and civil society organizations in cementing the principles of social justice, making social protection programmes more inclusive, and paying particular attention to cases of persons with disabilities, social cohesion and the social consequences of migration, war and refugees.

D. RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH
WITH MEMBER STATES
(Agenda item 7)

21. ESCWA prepared a questionnaire to solicit the views of member States on the mechanisms employed by the Social Development Division to communicate with them, so as to improve their effectiveness. The questionnaire is part of continuing efforts by ESCWA to develop communication and coordination methods with member States; to mainstream its initiatives, activities and projects and increase knowledge and awareness thereon; and to ensure wider dissemination of its outputs. In general, the questionnaire focused on the strengths and weaknesses of the communication mechanisms and on the dissemination of information from the Division.

22. ESCWA sent the questionnaire to 19 member States by electronic mail and through State focal points. However, despite continual follow-up by the Division, only seven countries responded, namely Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

23. Under this item, the secretariat presented the results of the questionnaire, including recommendations and proposals submitted by member States such as sending a revised version of the questionnaire to member States to increase the response rate; and broadening its scope of coverage by sending it, in a second phase, to partners such as international and civil society organizations. The secretariat called upon member State representatives to submit their comments and recommendations on the questionnaire results.

24. The ensuing discussion focused on the following points:

(a) Thanking the ESCWA secretariat for its continued efforts to strengthen communication mechanisms, methods and channels with member States by evaluating the results of the questionnaire and presenting them to the Committee on Social Development at its tenth session for discussion and providing proposals regarding their improvement;

(b) Inviting the secretariat to consider developing other mechanisms, in cooperation with member States, to ensure continual communication between them. Participants suggested forming specialized committees, under the Committee on Social Development, to follow-up on issues between sessions and present reports on their work to the Committee at its next session. They also proposed the topic of persons with disabilities to be the principal issue of follow-up between the tenth and eleventh sessions;

(c) Broadening the scope of the questionnaire to include more respondents and responses;

(d) Developing the ESCWA website to make it more dynamic and to ensure that it meets the requirements and research needs of member States, especially regarding search threads and searches for documents, reports, studies, booklets published by ESCWA;

(e) Translating ESCWA documents within a short deadline and uploading them onto the ESCWA website in Arabic and English, and sometimes in French.

E. OTHER MATTERS
(Agenda item 8)

25. No discussion points were raised under this item.

F. DATE AND VENUE OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
(Agenda item 9)

26. Under item 9, the Sudan submitted its request to host the eleventh session of the Committee on Social Development in Khartoum. Member States and the secretariat welcomed the proposal; the exact date will be determined later in consultation between stakeholders in the Sudan and the ESCWA secretariat.

**III. ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TENTH SESSION
OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**
(Agenda item 10)

27. At its final meeting, held on 9 September 2015, the Committee adopted the recommendations of its tenth session as set out in the present document.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. VENUE AND DATE OF THE SESSION

28. The tenth session of the Committee on Social Development was held in Rabat on 8 and 9 September 2015. Over those two days, the Committee discussed the items set out in the agenda.

B. OPENING

29. Ms. Bassima al-Hakkaoui, Minister of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development for Morocco, opened the session. She said that her country was pleased to host the session and welcomed ESCWA member State representatives in their second home, Morocco. She added that Morocco had developed social policies aimed at improving social and economic conditions for marginalized and poor groups. It had launched many structured social initiatives and projects, such as the national initiative for human development, and had established national and regional funds and institutions tasked with achieving social development. She indicated that Morocco was committed to cementing decentralization and adopting participatory approaches when implementing various sectoral strategies and programmes at the regional and national levels, by bringing together relevant local and national institutions with target groups and civil society organizations.

30. Ms. Al-Hakkaoui said that Morocco had developed several programmes under the social pillar strategy, including direct support for women, establishing and training social welfare institutions, advancing women's social and economic situations, programmes aimed at persons with disabilities and programmes to protect older persons and children from homelessness. She stressed that Morocco, through close cooperation with ESCWA, was striving to improve the coordination of regional social policies, so as to ensure social justice and integration between countries. It was also developing common sustainable development plans and approaches that took into consideration current and expected demographic changes; and was benefiting from the successful experiences of member States in the field of social development.

31. Ms. Machaer Ahmad al-Amin Abdullah al-Dawlab, Minister of Welfare and Social Security for the Sudan, Chair of the ninth session of the Committee, indicated the measures taken by the Sudan to implement the ESCWA programme of work and recommendations made at the ninth Committee session. She noted key activities implemented by the ESCWA secretariat to translate recommendations into tangible achievements, especially regarding technical cooperation with member States to formulate integrated social policies.

32. Ms. Al-Dawlab expressed her hope that the tenth session would result in a set of practical proposals for managing the social development process in Arab countries.

33. Mr. Frederico Neto, Director of the ESCWA Social Development Division, spoke on behalf of the secretariat. He affirmed the importance of the Committee as a platform to discuss achievements, opportunities and challenges, to exchange information and best practices, and to research proposals and recommendations aimed at directing the coordination and implementation of social development programmes in the future. He expressed his hope that the tenth session would result in proposals to strengthen the effectiveness of his Division's activities under the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017.

34. Mr. Neto said that, given the links between social justice, social development, politics and economic progress, social challenges faced by Arab citizens, in general, and vulnerable groups, in particular, should be assessed and possible solutions discussed. He added that the current session would focus on key issues for the region, and the priority development needs and concerns of member States. Committee discussions would lead to practical results to guide the formulation of social policies that supported social justice. He added that the session's agenda covered the population dimension in achieving sustainable development in the Arab region and extending social protection to cover all persons, thus reducing poverty, inequality and injustice and, in turn, building more inclusive, cohesive and stable societies.

C. PARTICIPANTS

35. Representatives of the following 15 ESCWA member States participated in the session: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. Representatives of regional organizations, observers and experts also attended the session. The list of participants is set out in annex I to the present report.

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

36. Pursuant to ESCWA resolution 226 (XXI) on the election of officers for the sessions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, members States shall assume the chairmanship of the sessions of the Commissions and its subsidiary bodies, on a rotating basis, in Arabic alphabetical order. In accordance with rule 12 of the ESCWA Rules of Procedure, at the beginning of each session, the Commission shall elect from among the representatives of its member States two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. In line with this rule, Mr. Salman Ali Jumaili, representative of Iraq, was appointed Chair of the session. Ms. Machaer Ahmad al-Amin Abdullah al-Dawlab, representative of the Sudan; and Mr. Alfadel Badr bin Mohamad al-Ghafiri, representative of Oman were appointed Vice Chairs. Mr. Mahmoud Ataya, representative of Palestine, was appointed Rapporteur.

E. AGENDA

37. At its first meeting, the Committee adopted the agenda for its tenth session set out in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/L.1:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Implementation of social development-related activities and recommendations since the ninth session of the Committee on Social Development.
5. Priority issues in achieving social development in the Arab region:
 - (a) The population dimension in achieving sustainable development;
 - (b) Extending social protection to persons with disabilities and informal workers in the agricultural sector;
 - (c) Participation as a lever for social justice (round-table discussion).
6. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 in the field of social development.
7. Results of the questionnaire on improving communication and outreach with member States.
8. Other matters.
9. Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Committee on Social Development.
10. Adoption of the recommendations of the tenth session of the Committee on Social Development.

38. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the proposed organization of work set out in document E/ESCWA/ECW/2015/IG.1/L.2.

F. DOCUMENTS

39. A list of meeting documents submitted to the Committee at its tenth session is set out in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. ESCWA MEMBER STATES

Jordan

Mr. Salameh Shahir al-Falaila
Director of the Ministry's Productivity
Enhancement
Ministry of Social Development

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Abdul-Rahman Abdallah al-Souki
Director of Social Security
Ministry for Social Affairs

Mr. Ali Hassan Mohammed al-Sayed
Legal Advisor
Office of the Minister
Ministry for Social Affairs

Bahrain

Mr. Fuad Sadiq al-Baharnah
Counsellor and Head of the Organization of
Islamic Cooperation and Other Organizations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Khaled Abdallah al-Qouti
Advisor
Embassy of Bahrain in Rabat

Tunisia

Ms. Maha Mazrouei al-Nakhli
Director
Ministry for Social Affairs

Sudan

Ms. Machaer Ahmad al-Amin al-Dawlab
Ministry of Welfare and Social Security

Mr. Mohammad Mr. Jamal Elneil Mansour
Director General of the Directorate General of
Planning, Policy and Research
Ministry of Welfare and Social Security

Mr. Mubarak Hussein Rahmtalla
International Development Advisor
Ministry of Welfare and Social Security

Ms. Wissal Hussein
Assistant Secretary-General of the National
Population Council
Secretary General Assistant for Technical Affairs
National Population Council

Iraq

Mr. Salman Ali Jumaili
Minister of Planning

Ms. Najla Ali Murad
Director General of the Poverty Reduction Strategy
Ministry of Planning

Mr. Karim Hanoun Lazem
Consultant to the Minister of Planning
Ministry of Planning

Mr. Alaa Sami Mohammed
Diplomatic Attaché
Embassy of Iraq in Rabat

Ms. Marwa Ali Hamad
Minister's Office

Mr. Omar Kareem Musleh
Minister's Office

Oman

Mr. Sayyid Badr bin Mohammed Abdullah Ghaferi
Economic Researcher
Secretariat, Supreme Council for Planning
Palestine

Mr. Mahmoud Ataya
Acting Director General
General Department for Social Development
Planning

Qatar

Mr. Eid bin Ali al-Muraikhi
Director, Planning & Quality Department
Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

Lebanon

Mr. Fadi bou Ali
National Coordinator of the National Programme
for Social Economy Development
Ministry for Social Affairs

Egypt

Mr. Ahmed Hamdi Baker
Minister Plenipotentiary
Embassy of Egypt
Rabat, Morocco

Morocco

Mr. Amrani Abdul Samad
Director of Social Development
Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social
Development

Mr. Mohamed al- Bozaoui
Head of Social Engineering Department
Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social
Development

Ms. Hanan Touzani
Director of Studies and General Affairs
Ministry for General Affairs and Governance

Mr. Mohammed Khloani
Director of Social Solidarity and Production
Department
National Welfare Association
Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social
Development

Mr. Abdelatif Saidi
Head Social Solidarity Department
Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs

Ms. Husniyya Sabri
High Commission for Planning
Director of Women and Child Welfare Department
Social Policy Section

Mr. Abdellah Mellouk
Head of Department of Economic and Cultural
Affairs
Directorate of Multilateral Cooperation
International Economic Affairs

Ms. Siham Lamsori
Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs
International Cooperation and Partnership
Department

Mr. Anwar bin Amro
Director of International Cooperation Department
Ministry of Health

Ms. Ekram Shanif
Director of Cooperation Program
Cooperation Section
Ministry of Health

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Saleh ben Fahd El Shahri
Planning Specialist
Master's in Urban and Regional Planning
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Undersecretariat for Economic Affairs
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Hassan ben Khaled al-Merdas
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Master's in Management Control
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Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Mohammed ben Rajab al-Zahrani
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General Department of Social Affairs in the
Eastern Region
Ministry of Social Affairs

Mr. Khaled ben Soulayman al-Wahbi
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Chief Supervisor of Community Centers
Ministry of Social Affairs

Mauritania

Mr. Mohammed Toqr
Technical Advisor for the Ministry of Economic
Affairs and Development

Yemen

Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Ali al-Hauri
Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Planning and
International Cooperation, Economic Studies
Sector
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

B. NON-ESCWA MEMBER STATES

Ms. Amal Moujaber
Secretary for Foreign Affairs
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Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Title	Item	Symbol
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Participation as a lever for social justice	5 (c)	E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/4(Part III)
Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 in the field of social development	6	E/ESCWA/SDD/2015/IG.1/5
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