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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON LIBERALIZATION OF FOREIGN TRADE, ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE ESCWA REGION AMMAN, 7-8 OCTOBER 2013

Summary

The Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its eighth meeting in Amman on 7 and 8 October 2013.

The Committee considered the following items on its agenda: (a) Review of action taken in the fields of economic globalization and financing for development under the ESCWA programme of work since the seventh session of the Committee; (b) financing for development: progress made in implementing the Monterrey Consensus in ESCWA member countries; (c) financial policy coordination among Arab countries: reality and future prospects; (d) role of national trade policies in the development of productive capacities in the Arab region; (e) fiscal space: strengthening the financial capacity of Arab countries; (f) financing infrastructure through public-private partnerships in Arab countries; (g) programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the fields of liberalization of foreign trade, economic globalization and financing for development; (h) date and venue of the ninth session of the Committee; (i) other matters; (j) adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee at its eighth meeting.

The present report contains the main recommendations of the Committee regarding the items on its agenda and a brief summary of the main points raised during the discussions.

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Introduction

1. The Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the ESCWA Region held its eighth session pursuant to ESCWA resolution 214 (XIX) of 7 May 1997, concerning the establishment of a technical committee on the liberalization of foreign trade and economic globalization in the countries of the ESCWA region, and in implementation of the recommendations issued by the Committee at its seventh session (Beirut, 4-5 May 2012) and the resolution adopted at the twenty-seventh Ministerial Session of ESCWA (Beirut, 7-10 May 2012) on holding annual sessions of the Committee with one session on trade and a second on financing for development.
2. The present report reviews the main points raised during the discussions.

E. RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON LIBERALIZATION OF FOREIGN TRADE, ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE ESCWA REGION AT ITS EIGHTH SESSION

3. The Committee reviewed the progress made in implementing activities contained in the programme of work since its seventh session. It commended the ESCWA technical assistance offered to regional organizations and United Nations entities working in the field of financing for development and ESCWA participation in relevant regional and international events. The Committee also reviewed the recommendations of the expert group meeting on developing new mechanisms for financing development in the Arab region, held in Amman on 6 and 7 October 2013. The Committee issued the following recommendations to Governments of member countries and the ESCWA secretariat.

A. RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS

4. The Committee made the following recommendations to Governments of ESCWA member countries:
 - (a) To develop financing mechanisms that allow the banking sector to use excess liquidity to fund development projects in the medium and long-term and finance small and medium enterprises on the basis of labour intensity;
 - (b) To broaden the necessary infrastructure to fund small, medium and micro enterprises and establish intermediary institutions that guarantee loans for small and medium enterprise, thus assisting banks in reducing risks and interest rates associated with such loans;
 - (c) To develop a series of incentives to encourage banks to directly invest in start-up companies under specific conditions;
 - (d) To reduce the cost of transferring funds to encourage formal remittances by developing a competitive banking systems, strategies and appropriate national and governmental frameworks to encourage the transfer of funds to finance the development process;
 - (e) To issue medium and long-term bonds to expatriates, with attractive benefits;
 - (f) To establish strategic partnerships with awqaf institutions and relevant ministries to develop and invest awqaf resources to ensure economic and social development;

(g) To urge countries to monitor the implementation of commitments related to increasing official aid resulting from the Arab economic summits and continue to improve aid efficiency in accordance with the interests of donor and beneficiary countries;

(h) To coordinate macroeconomic policies (fiscal and monetary) to reap the benefits of Arab regional integration;

(i) To coordinate efforts and strengthen cooperation between all government institutions, the private sector and international bodies to support public-private partnerships;

(j) To review the Rabat Declaration on public-private partnerships in the Arab region.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ESCWA

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

(a) To monitor the implementation by member countries of the recommendations contained in the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development;

(b) To take note of the activities and services in the fields of liberalization of foreign trade, economic globalization and financing for development under subprogramme 3 on economic development and integration of the ESCWA proposed programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015; and to urge the ESCWA secretariat to implement them during that biennium;

(c) To work closely with the secretariat of the League of Arab States to support Arab regional integration in the trade of goods and services, especially with regard to the Arab customs union; to coordinate macroeconomic policies to develop economic models capable of measuring the effects of such agreements on various economic and development factors; to enhance the activities of the ESCWA secretariat in developing the economic statistical infrastructure of member countries; to hold periodic joint meetings between ESCWA and relevant entities of the League of Arab States so as to coordinate, gauge and monitor joint activities; and to develop a monitoring and evaluation mechanism;

(d) To pay particular attention to funding regional integration projects, through partnership programmes with the private sector and establishing a unit within the ESCWA secretariat to handle such programmes and provide advisory services to member countries on the issue upon request;

(e) To conduct studies and research on the comparative advantages of member countries to encourage the undertaking of large development and investment projects and to support intra-regional trade and related infrastructure;

(f) To offer technical support to member countries upon request in the following fields;

(i) Reformulating and restructuring investment policies and linking them to regional development strategies;

(ii) Developing new and improved financial products that meet the needs of expatriates to attract more savings to productive sectors and preparing various studies on developing regulations and legislation linked to benefiting from expatriates;

(iii) Preparing studies on ways to fund small and medium enterprises, focusing on best regional and international practices;

(iv) Supporting member countries that are currently acceding to the World Trade Organization, including Palestine and the Sudan.

II. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION

A. REVIEW OF ACTION TAKEN IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT SINCE THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE (Agenda item 4)

6. The Committee considered document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/3 on the review of action taken in the fields of economic globalization and financing for development under the ESCWA programme of work since the seventh session of the Committee. The Committee also took note of the following activities implemented over the two years from October 2011 to September 2013:

(a) Preparing activities on financing for development; public-private partnerships; and aid effectiveness;

(b) Organizing expert group meetings on small and medium enterprises and their role in sustainable development; and on infrastructure investment and mobilizing financial resources in the Arab region;

(c) Building the capacities of member countries regarding bilateral investment agreements; conducting negotiations on prohibiting double taxation; and gathering statistics on and calculating direct foreign investment.

B. FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT: PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE MONTERREY CONSENSUS IN ESCWA MEMBER COUNTRIES (Agenda item 5)

7. The Committee considered document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/4 on the progress made in implementing the Monterrey Consensus in ESCWA member countries that resulted from the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Mexico from 18 to 22 March 2002, and which was reaffirmed at the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Qatar from 2 November to 2 December 2008.

8. The Committee reviewed the progress made by member countries in the field of financing for development and its challenges, with special focus on the of \$52 million annual funding gap calculated in a 2012 ESCWA study, despite bank surplus liquidity estimated at \$484 billion and an increase in direct foreign investment, following a sharp drop of approximately \$96 billion in 2008, reaching \$46 billion in 2012; and on benefitting more from foreign remittances to finance development, estimated at \$35 billion annually.¹ The Committee also reviewed the investment strategies project that ECWA intends to launch at the end of 2013, which will give decision-makers in member countries the opportunity to determine priority sectors for direct foreign investment, given that the majority of investment currently goes to the oil sector. It also introduced the project on building member countries' capacities to receive workers' remittances that ESCWA will focus on over the next two years.

9. The Committee considered the challenges related to the lack of effective loans granted to small and medium enterprises that represent approximately 9 per cent of total bank loans. The Committee indicated the capacity to create 22 million new employment opportunities if the percentage of loans granted to small and medium enterprises were to increase to 20 per cent.

¹ Progress Achieved by ESCWA Member Countries Towards Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, October 2012 (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2012/5).

10. Several representatives highlighted the importance of allocating a segment of the public budget to funding medium and long-term investment projects that aimed to increase productivity and thus stimulate development; of supporting small and medium enterprises and offering them financial and technical assistance given that they contributed to reducing unemployment, especially among young people. Following a request for clarification by some representatives on the relation between trade liberalization and official development assistance, the secretariat said that ESCWA used national data on official development assistance and on sectoral distribution of foreign direct investment as a primary source when available; in the absence of such accurate and detailed data, it was difficult to precisely evaluate its effects on development.

C. FINANCIAL POLICY COORDINATION AMONG ARAB COUNTRIES:
REALITY AND FUTURE PROSPECTS
(Agenda item 6)

11. The Committee considered document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/5 on the role of financial policies in achieving Arab economic integration by focusing on coordinating financial policies in Arab production and trade. The Committee also analysed the role of financial policy coordination in financing an Arab development fund, founded on the principle of fair contributions to develop and diversify Arab economies by rehabilitating affected economies and fund services and infrastructure linked to trade. It was highlighted that Arab intra-regional trade was more diverse than Arab international trade, given that it covered various goods and not only oil, thus opening broad avenues for Arab integration.

12. Several suggestions to stimulate the role of integrated financial policies were made so as to achieve real and comprehensive economic integration, thus providing the economic and social benefits available in several other countries. It was agreed that regional integration was a necessity for economic development in the light of the various free trade agreements worldwide. The Committee indicated that regional integration treaties aimed to increase the competitiveness of member countries under a regional grouping, thus enabling them to penetrate global markets.

13. The ensuing discussion focused on the importance of implementing the treaties adopted under the League of Arab States to enhance regional integration. Member countries were commended for the progress made in establishing the Greater Arab Free Trade Area and for their efforts in developing an Arab customs union despite numerous challenges, notably the adoption of a common customs tariff among member countries, given that altering tariffs in countries would have huge economic effects and repercussions on local economies in general and on employment and development in particular.

D. ROLE OF NATIONAL TRADE POLICIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTIVE CAPACITIES
IN THE ARAB REGION
(Agenda item 7)

14. The Committee reviewed document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/6 on the role of national trade policies in the development of productive capacities in the Arab region and the impact of changes to trade policies in most Arab countries, especially following the adoption of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1994 and subsequent free trade treaties among Arab countries and their trade partners. The Committee also reviewed the key macroeconomic characteristics of ESCWA member countries, with special focus on the components of gross domestic product; growth sources that drive productive capacities; and the relationship between foreign trade and local productive capacities, represented by growth that aims to increase contributions from various sectors to domestic product. The Committee also considered the principal current policies in member countries, highlighting trade policy tools such as tariff structures, non-tariff barriers, government procurement, respect for intellectual property rules, in addition to analysing the competitiveness of ESCWA member countries and the determinants of competitiveness in each country. Proposals on the formulation of trade policies to increase productivity and broaden markets were also put forward.

15. The ensuing discussion tackled the challenges of trade liberalization in some member countries, focusing on the importance of diversifying income sources in oil exporting countries and of increasing the competitiveness of member countries as a major step towards regional economic integration. Several representatives underscored the need to develop infrastructure to enhance member countries' competitiveness at the macro and sectoral levels. They called on member countries to specialize in goods in which they have a comparative advantage. ESCWA received several requests for technical support from member countries that wished to join the World Trade Organization as a member or an observer, especially from less developed member countries.

E. FISCAL SPACE: STRENGTHENING THE FINANCIAL CAPACITY OF ARAB COUNTRIES
(Agenda item 8)

16. Under this item, the Committee considered document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/7 and defined the term "fiscal space" as room in a government's budget that allows it to provide resources for a desired purpose without jeopardizing the sustainability of its financial position or the stability of the economy. The Committee presented the following four pillars on which fiscal space in the Arab region could be expanded: deficit financing which cannot be currently implemented because of extremely high debt levels; improving expenditure efficiency and determining expenditure priorities by diverting it from subsidies to social protection; domestic resource mobilization especially by improving the efficiency of taxation to benefit the poor; and official development assistance and the role of regional funds. The Committee also examined the following two methods to enhance Arab fiscal space: domestic resource mobilization and reprioritizing expenditure, taking into account that official development assistance could be used to expand fiscal space in the short-term.

17. The ensuing discussion focused on the fiscal policies implemented in some member countries, taking note of the ESCWA study on taxation policies in the Arab region. Many representatives said that several Arab countries had the capacity to increase tax revenue and underscored the need to conduct more studies on tax and fiscal reform. They also stressed the necessity of analysing government expenditure, ensuring its consistency with priority government goals and determining the optimal policies for goal achievement.

F. FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
IN ARAB COUNTRIES
(Agenda item 9)

18. Under this item, the Committee reviewed document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/8 on financing infrastructure through public-private partnerships and its effects on development in Arab countries. The Committee stressed the importance of financing infrastructure through public-private partnerships, especially in developing countries, and the challenges that hamper the process. It highlighted the key role played by Governments in joint projects, given that the aim of such partnerships was to reduce pressure on Governments so as to improve services, contribute to economic growth and create employment opportunities.

19. Committee members and experts in public-private partnerships in the field of transport participated in a roundtable to discuss successful experiences, including the Jordanian experience in developing the Queen Alia International Airport and the airport and seaport development projects in Saudi Arabia. They also discussed the challenges of such projects; the types of public-private partnership agreements, the provisions of such agreements in terms of revenue distribution; and transparency in the selection and development process; as well as the positive economic effects of those projects, including the following: the creation of employment opportunities; strengthening trade; and increasing passenger and freight traffic. The following factors contributed to the success of such projects: transparency, country stability and the existence of organizational and legal frameworks to govern partnerships.

20. Participants discussed their countries' experiences with regard to public-private partnerships, which focused on developing airports, seaports and transport services and electricity production. They also presented legal projects that some Arab Governments were aiming to implement so as to develop a legal framework for such partnerships.

**G. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015 IN THE FIELDS OF LIBERALIZATION
OF FOREIGN TRADE, ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
(Agenda item 10)**

21. The Committee considered the programme of work proposed by the ESCWA secretariat for the biennium 2014-2015 in the areas of liberalization of foreign trade, economic globalization and financing for development, set out in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/9, under subprogramme 3 on economic development and integration and in line with the revised strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-seventh session (Beirut, 7-10 May 2012).

22. The ESCWA secretariat took note of representatives' comments regarding recommendations made to ESCWA and to Governments (contained in section I of the present report).

**H. DATE AND VENUE OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE
(Agenda item 11)**

23. The tenth session of the Committee will be held at the ESCWA headquarters in Beirut in 2015, if a request is not made by a member country to host it. The session will focus on financing for development.

**I. OTHER MATTERS
(Agenda item 12)**

24. No discussion points were addressed under this item.

**III. ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE
COMMITTEE AT ITS EIGHTH SESSION
(Agenda item 13)**

25. At its final meeting on 8 October 2013, the Committee adopted the recommendations made at its eighth session.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE MEETING

26. The Committee held its eighth session in Amman, on 7 and 8 October 2013.

B. OPENING OF THE SESSION

27. The opening speech was delivered by the representative of Yemen, Mr. Ahmed Qa'ed Said al-Shibani, on behalf of the Chair of the seventh session. He welcomed the participants, thanked the Committee for its efforts and presented the key issues for the session, reaffirming that the Committee had decided that its eighth session should focus on financing for development and its ninth session would tackle trade issues.

28. Mr. Abdullah al-Dardari, Chief Economist and Director of the Economic Development and Globalization Division, delivered a speech on behalf of Ms. Rima Khalaf, Under-Secretary-General of the

United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCWA, in which he welcomed the participants, especially the representatives from the three new ESCWA member countries, namely Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, which were participating in a Committee session as members for the first time following their accession to ESCWA in 2012. He reaffirmed that the main instigators of the Arab popular uprisings were the difficult economic and living conditions faced by citizens, especially young people. Two years after the start of the uprisings, many Arab countries continued to suffer from widespread economic instability, requiring all Arab countries to collaborate and coordinate their efforts to tackle current economic challenges and to standardize public policies and frameworks so as to hasten the regional integration process.

29. Mr. al-Dardari set out the following three priorities that ESCWA hoped Arab Governments would give particular attention to over the coming period in the light of the economic challenges facing the region. Firstly, develop infrastructure and increasing investment expenditure so as to create employment opportunities and improve the investment climate. Secondly, provide comprehensive financing to all relevant stakeholders and assist small and medium enterprises in accessing funding and loans and offering special training programmes for their benefit. Thirdly, focus on increasing productivity to stimulate foreign trade and increase competitiveness.

C. PARTICIPANTS

30. The eighth session of the Committee was attended by representatives from 17 ESCWA member countries, namely Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

31. The session was also attended by representatives of a number of international, regional and Arab organizations, namely the League of Arab States, the Saudi Fund for Development and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Annex I to the present report contains the list of participants.

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

32. Pursuant to rule 18 of the rules of procedure of ESCWA, “member countries shall assume the chairmanship of the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations.” Mr. Mr. Mukhled al-Omri, the representative of Jordan from the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, was appointed Chair of the eighth session of the Committee, after the representative of Yemen, which assumed the chairmanship of the seventh session (4 October 2011 to 6 October 2013). As per the procedures followed at previous sessions, the Committee elected the representative of Yemen, Mr. Ahmed Qa’ed Said al-Shibani, and the representative of the United Arab Emirates, Mr. Matar Ahmed Abdullah Al Ali, as Vice-Chairs. Ms. Haya Muhammad al-Rawi’i, the representative of Bahrain, was elected Rapporteur.

E. AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

33. At its opening meeting, the Committee adopted the following agenda, as presented to it and as set out in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/L.1:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

4. Review of action taken in the fields of economic globalization and financing for development under the ESCWA programme of work since the seventh session of the Committee.
5. Financing for development: Progress made in implementing the Monterrey Consensus in ESCWA member countries.
6. Financial policy coordination among Arab countries: Reality and future prospects.
7. Role of national trade policies in the development of productive capacities in the Arab region.
8. Fiscal space: Strengthening the financial capacity of Arab countries.
9. Financing infrastructure through public-private partnerships in Arab countries.
10. Programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the fields of liberalization of foreign trade, economic globalization and financing for development.
11. Date and venue of the ninth session of the Committee.
12. Other matters.
13. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee at its eighth session.
34. At the same session, the Committee adopted the draft organization of work set out in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/L.2.

F. DOCUMENTS

35. The documents considered by the Committee at its eighth session are listed in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. ESCWA MEMBER COUNTRIES

Egypt

Mr. Majdi Muhammad al-Said Hawtar
Director of the Department of Economic
Organizations and Blocs
Central Bank of Egypt

Ms. Najla` Abdulfatah Nazhi
Director General of the Department of Economic
Research
Central Bank of Egypt

Ms. Dunia Mahmud Mohammad
Director-General of the Trade in Services
Department
Ministry of Trade and Industry

Mr. Sherif Arafat Atifa
Advisor to the Investment Minister
Ministry of Investment

Mr. Sherif Muhammad Mukhtar
Economic Analyst
General Authority for Investment and Free Zones

Mr. Mohammad Sinjab
Director of the Department of the League of Arab
States
Ministry of Trade and Industry

Bahrain

Ms. Haya Muhammad al-Rawi'i
Diplomatic Attaché
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms. Maha Sultan al-Jawdar
Administrative Coordinator
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Iraq

Mr. Ala` al-Din Ja`far Muhammad Ali
Director General of the Department of Economic
Policy and Finance
Ministry of Planning

Jordan

Mr. Laith Hani Dababina
Secretary-General
Ministry of Transport

Mr. Azmi Ahmed Ali Nalshek
Ministry of Transport

Mr. Muhammad Abu Amr
Director-General
Jordan Investment Board

Mr. Walid Khaled Yaghmur
Principal Investigator
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Ms. Raghd Fayez al-Shakhaniba
Principal Coordinator
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Mr. Mukhled Salem alOmri
Director of the Department of Policy and Strategy
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Mr. Mohammad al-Azam
Director of the International Financial and
Economic Relations Department
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Hanadi al-Rifai
Director of the National Economy Department
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Sahar Abdulra`uf al-Fakhuri
Economic Researcher
Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply

Mr. Mufiq Majed Ayad
Economic Researcher
Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply

Kuwait

Ms. Iman al-Hadad
Director of the Department of International
Organizations
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Sharuq al-Khalil
Foreign Relations Researcher
Ministry of Finance

Lebanon

Mr. Ali Hassan al-Mawla
First Secretary
Ministry of Lebanon in Jordan

Libya

Mr. Mahdi Hassan Ismail
Economic Advisor
Ministry of Planning

Mr. Abdulhakim al-Mabruk Na`il
Economic Advisor
Ministry of Planning

Morocco

Ms. Lubna Lamahmadi Alawi
Director of the Department of Relations with
International Institutions
Ministry of Economy and Finance

Ms. Ghaita al-Tahiri al-Juti Idrisi al-Hassani
Director of the Department of Macro-prudential
Monitoring
Bank Al-Maghreb

Mr. Abdulrahim Baghdad
Director of the Department of Trade Relations
with International Organizations
Ministry of Trade, Industry and New
Technologies

Oman

Mr. Muhammad bin Rashed
Director of the Department of Production and
External Sector Investment
Ministry of Finance

Palestine

Mr. Hazem Ismail Shanar
Assistant Undersecretary
Ministry of National Economy

Ms. Manal Ali al-Dasuqi
Director-General of Trade
Ministry of National Economy

Qatar

Mr. Abdullah Ahmed al-Ban`ali
Assistant Director of Financial Stability and
Statistics
Qatar Central Bank

Ms. Moza Muhammad Mahmudi
International Relations Expert
Ministry of Economy and Commerce

Ms. Moza al-Naimi
First Researcher
International Cooperation and Trade Agreements
Department
Ministry of Business and Trade

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Abdullah Ali al-Marwani
Director of the Studies and Research Department
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Mazen Abdullah al-Mu`alimi
Second Secretary
Department of International Economic Relations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Munthir bin Nasser al-Rashed
Director-General of the Department of Public
Transport
Ministry of Transport

Sudan

Mr. Ahmed Mahjub Shawir
Secretary-General of the National Investment
Authority

Ms. Iqbal Sabil Abkar
Principal Inspector
Ministry of Trade

Sudan (continued)

Mr. Altaher Suleiman Aydam
Director-General of the of the Department of
International Affairs
Ministry of Trade

Mr. Selah al-Din Sheikh Khodr Bakhit
Managing Director
Central Bank of Sudan

Syrian Arab Republic

Mr. Muhammad Taleb Abu Syrriah
Advisor to the Embassy of the Syrian Arab
Republic in Jordan

Tunisia

Mr. Samir bin Musa Mahjubi
Central Inspector of Financial Interests
Ministry of Finance

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Matar Ahmed Abdullah Al Ali
Director of the Department of Analysis and Trade
Ministry of Economy

Yemen

Mr. Ahmed Qa`ed Said al-Shibani
Assistant Undersecretary of the Foreign Financial
Relations Sector
Ministry of Finance

Mr. Sultan Abdulkarim Maghlis
Director-General of the Technical Bureau
Central Bank of Yemen

B. ARAB REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Saudi Bank for Development

Mr. Tamer al-Shahib
Economic Researcher

Mr. Fahd Abdullah al-Bassam
Economic Researcher

League of Arab States

Mr. Raundi Halvorsen-Quevedo
Senior Advisor

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Title	Item	Symbol
Information note		E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/INF.1
Provisional agenda and annotations	3	E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/L.1
Organization of work	3	E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.2/L.2
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