Day One – 18 February 2019

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:45 Opening Session

Introductory Remarks, Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Director, Economic Development and Integration Division, ESCWA

Introductory Remarks, Mr. Ibrahim El Badawi, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum

Overview and Objective of the Expert Group Meeting
Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Mr. Paul Makdissi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa

09:45 – 11:00 Session I – Inequality of Outcome in Health
Chair: Mr. Paul Makdissi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa

Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Ms. Verena Gantner, Junior Researcher, German Development Institute

Discussant: Ms. Myra Yazbeck, Associate Professor, Department of Economics University of Ottawa

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break (B1 – Committee Room I Area)

11:15 – 12:30 Session II – Inequality of Outcome in Education
Chair: Mr. Oussama Safa, Chief, Participation and Social Justice Section, ESCWA

Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Ms. Verena Gantner, Junior Researcher, German Development Institute
Ms. Manuella Nehme, Individual Contractor, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Discussant: Ms. Rana Hendy, Assistant Professor, Department of Development Economics, The Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break (Ground Floor – Cafeteria)
14:00 - 15:15 Session III - Inequality of Opportunity in Education
Chair: Ms. Racha Ramadan Mohamed, Associate Professor at Cairo University and Economist at ERF

Ms. Rana Hendy, Assistant Professor, Department of Development Economics, The Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

Discussant: Mr. Paul Makdissi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee break (B1 – Committee Room I Area)

15:30 - 16:45 Session IV - Inequality of Opportunity in Health
Chair: Mr. Bilal Al-Kiswani, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Mr. Mesbah Sharaf, Faculty Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Alberta, Canada

Discussant: Mr. Paul Makdissi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa

Day Two – 19 February 2019

09:00–10:15 Session V – Gender Inequality
Chair: Ms. Zahra Langhi, Social Affairs Officer, ESCWA Center for Women, ESCWA

Ms. Racha Ramadan Mohamed, Associate Professor at Cairo University and Economist at ERF
Ms. Hanan Nazier, Research Associate/Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics & Political Science, Cairo University
Ms. Valentina Calderón-Mejía, Economic Affairs Officer, Emerging and Conflict Related Issues Division, ESCWA

Discussant: Ms. Sahar Taghdisi Rad, Lecturer in Economic, School of Oriental and African Studies

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee break (B1 – Committee Room I Area)

10:30 – 11:45 Session VI – Poverty Correlates and Social Policy
Chair: Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Mr. Bilal Al-Kiswani, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Discussant: Mr. Rami Tabri, Lecturer/Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University of Sydney
11:45 – 13:15 Lunch break (Ground Floor – Cafeteria)

13:15 – 14:30 Session VII – Inequality Drivers: The role of Economic Policies
Chair: Mr. Ibrahim El Badawi, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum

Mr. Niranjan Sarangi, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Mr. Salim Araji, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Discussant: Mr. Ghassan Dibeh, Professor/Chair of the Department of Economics, Lebanese American University

14:30 – 14:45 Coffee break (B1 – Committee Room I Area)

14:45 – 16:00 Session VIII – Political Economy Considerations
Chair: Mr. Samir Makdisi, Professor, American University of Beirut

Mr. Oussama Safa, Chief, Participation and Social Justice Section, ESCWA
Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA

Discussant: Ms. Sahar Taghdisi Rad, Lecturer in Economic, School of Oriental and African Studies
Mr. Rami Khouri, Senior Public Policy Fellow, Issam Fares Institute, American University of Beirut

16:00 – 17:00 Closing Session
Chair: Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Director, Economic Development and Integration Division, ESCWA

Ms. Souraya Zein, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Mr. Khalid Abu-Ismail, Chief, Economic Development and Poverty Section, ESCWA
Mr. Oussama Safa, Chief, Participation and Social Justice Section, ESCWA
Mr. Paul Makdissi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa