



*Au service  
des peuples  
et des nations*



Institut Arabe des  
Chefs d'Entreprises

National Round Table

## **Strengthening Integrity in the Private Sector in Tunisia**

What roles for the government, companies and civil society in promoting transparency in the business sector?

Tunisia, Tunisian Republic

5 December 2012

### **Programme**

## OVERVIEW

The UNDP Regional Project for Integrity and Fight against Corruption in Arab Countries (UNDP ACIAC) and the Arab Institute of Business Managers (IACE) are holding a national round table on “*Strengthening Integrity in the Private Sector in Tunisia*” on 5 December 2012 in Tunis. The round table will focus on the concepts and practices relating to transparency in the private sector within the broader efforts aiming to strengthen integrity and prevent corruption in that sector. It will also serve as a forum for an inclusive dialogue for Tunisian stakeholders including government, businesses and civil society organizations to identify recommendations and entry points so as to further advance related efforts in the country. The roundtable will be part of a series of national activities supported by UNDP-ACIAC in cooperation with several partners. It will draw on the outcomes of a major regional workshop which was held in Tunis (Tunisia) on 7-8 June 2012 and will contribute to the second regional workshop, scheduled for December to review the progress made in the Arab countries and the follow-up activities set to be carried out by the various stakeholders at the national and regional levels.

## AGENDA

Wednesday 5 december 2012

09.00 – 11.00

### Session I

#### Inventory of the integrity of the private sector in Tunisia

*Objectives* : During this session , the efforts made by the Tunisia, both the internal business ones and those taken by the government for the private sector, including measures to facilitate public private dialogue will be discussed.

- **Moderator**

Mr. Tarek Chaabouni, member of the steering committee of the IACE and CEO of « The accommodation »

- **Panel**

Mr Tarek El BAHRI, General Engineer and general director and advisor of the minister in charge of Governance and of the Fight against Corruption

Mr. Karim BEN KAHLA, Professor of the universities in Management Sciences and Director of the Higher Institute of Accounting and Business Administration of Tunis

Mr. Salah Riahi, representative of the Tunisian Alliance for Integrity and Transparency

- **Discussions**

11.00 – 11.30

### Break

11.30 – 13.30

### Session 2

#### Strengthening integrity and preventing corruption in the private sector: international standards and comparative experiences

*Objectives*: Enable participants to discuss comparative experiences in the promotion of integrity in business, taking account existing international standards. The session will also

*examine possible incentives, sanctions and preventive actions that the State, businesses and civil society can take to improve private sector integrity*

- **Moderator**

M. Ezzeddine NCIRI, Chargé des investigations en chef, Département de l'intégrité et de la lutte contre la corruption, Banque Africaine pour le Développement

- **Panel**

Dr. Muhyiedeen TOUQ, international expert on the fight against corruption

Dr. Stuart GILMAN, Associé principal, Global Integrity Group

Ms. Hanna HEIKKILA, Officier responsable de la conformité, Siemens Tunisia

**Discussions**

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch

14.30 – 16.30

Session III

**The role of different stakeholders in the enhancement of transparency in the private sector**

***Objectives :** indentify concrete actions that the State, the private sector and civil society can implement to strenghten the integrity and transparency of the private sector and to enhance the effectiveness of public-private dialogue.*

**Back-to-back Session I: for government representatives**

This session will be attended exclusively by government representatives. Participants will discuss the various mechanisms by which governments may engage dialogue with the private sector and civil society with the purpose of strengthening transparency in the private sector. Concrete measures will be considered for further engagement in Tunisia.

**Back-to-back Session II : for private sector representatives**

During this session, participants will reflect on mechanisms and means enabling the private sector to promote transparency. They will consider actions that they may implement themselves and will also be invited to identify measures that they would like the government to implement.

**Back-to-back Session III : for representatives from civil society**

This session will discuss how civil society organizations can promote transparency in the private sector. Participants will consider actions that they may implement themselves and will also be invited to suggest measures that they would wish the Government to implement.

16.30 – 17.30

Joint closing session

**Reporting on the proposals formulated at the back-to-back sessions**

**Rapporteurs :**

Représentant du gouvernement

Représentant du secteur privé

Représentant de la société civile

Presenters will report on the main points dealt within each of the back-to-back sessions and submit the recommendations of those groups. Participants will then have the opportunity to identify the most relevant measures to be implemented for the purpose of enhancing integrity and transparency in Tunisia's business environment.

**Closing remarks by the organizers**

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**Annex 1 : Main conclusions of the Regional Workshop on *Enhancing Transparency in the Private Sector and the Role of Different Stakeholders in Arab Countries (Tunis, 7-8 June 2012)* - excerpt<sup>1</sup>**

- 1. To prepare a report that summarizes the outcomes of the workshop, and to publish it in order to raise awareness and promote cooperation on the regional and national level to enhance private sector transparency.*
- 2. To establish channels to benefit from the knowledge and information available at the UNGC, and to encourage business entities in the region to set up UNGC local networks and coordinate their work with the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network.*
- 3. To welcome the building of a more cooperative relationship with the OECD to benefit from its MENA Investment Program, and particularly from the business forum of this Programme.*
- 4. To follow up on the efforts conducted for the two training and educational material for anti-corruption in business transactions, which are supported by the UNDP and its partners in order to contribute to them and benefit from them, and find ways to utilize them on the national and regional levels.*
- 5. To organize a series of local roundtables in the countries of the region to bring together all stakeholders focusing on private sector transparency in order to identify specific actions points or plans that would take into consideration the national context, national priorities, international standards and good practices.*

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<sup>11</sup> The full report is available here: [www.pogar.org/resources/ac/details.aspx?aid=333](http://www.pogar.org/resources/ac/details.aspx?aid=333)