



Under the Patronage of His Highness Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait

Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah

Roundtable

Towards Strengthening Private Sector Integrity in the Gulf Region

What roles for the State, companies, and civil society in enhancing business transparency?

Kuwait City, State of Kuwait, 17 December 2012

Programme

In cooperation with:





OVERVIEW

Under the patronage of His Highness Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Kuwait Transparency Society and UNDP's Regional Project on "Anti-Corruption and Integrity in the Arab Countries" (UNDP-ACIAC) are jointly organizing a roundtable that addresses the theme of private sector integrity in the context of the Gulf region, which will be held in Kuwait City on 17 December 2012 in cooperation with the MENA-OECD investment Programme and the Siemens Integrity Initiative. The roundtable will have a particular focus on concepts and practices that can enhance transparency in the private sector and how this can be linked to the broader efforts aimed at strengthening integrity and preventing corruption in business transactions and the interface with the public sector. It will bring together selected participants, who are active in this area, representating entities from government, the business community, and civil society in Gulf countries; and will provide them with a platform to explore challenges and opportunities for improvement taking into consdieration the particularities relevant to their national context. At the end, participants are exected to identify a number of ideas and conclusions that can inform further action in the future. The roundtable is part of a series of local roundtables that are being organized acorss the Arab region, with the support of UNDP-ACIAC in cooperation with several partners including the MENA-OECD investment Programme. The roundtables draw on the results of the Tunis regional workshop which was held on 7-8 June 2012¹.

AGENDA

Monday 17 December 2012

10.00 - 11.30 First Session

Taking a closer look at the private sector in the Gulf region

Objective: examine the state of the private sector in Gulf Countries, including its nature, governance, and enabling environment in the context of its interaction with the public sector and the regional and global markets, with a view to identifying opportunities and challenges for strengthening private sector integrity in light of actual needs and priorities and relevant internal and external factors.

Moderated by Mr. Adrian Wood CEO Siemens EES KSCC-Kuwait

Expert Panel

Mr. Tareq HADDAD, Partner, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, United Arab Emirates

Mr. Mubarak AL ADWANI, Assistant Resident Representative, UNDP Kuwait

Dr. Salah AL GHAZALI, Chairman, Kuwait Transparency Society

• Questions and Answers

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¹ See Annex below. The agenda and final report of this workshop are available on the following link: http://www.pogar.org/resources/ac/details.aspx?aid=333

11.30 - 13.00 Second Session

Key international standards and good practices on private sector integrity and their relevance for action in Gulf countries

Objective: enable participants to discuss key international standards and good practices on private sector integrity, focusing on transparency and disclosure requirements, while examining their relevance for action by stakeholders in Gulf countries.

Moderated by Ms. Olga SAVRAN, Senior Anti-Corruption Advisor, MENA-OECD Investment Programme

Expert Panel

Ms. Shannon BULLOCK, Programme Officer, Legal Incentives and Public Procurement, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC

Ms. Imelda DUNLOP, Executive Director, Pearl Initiative

Mr. Jean MONVILLE, Honorary President of SPIE SA, President of the International Deontology Committee of MEDEF the French Business Confederation

Questions and Answers

12.30 - 13.00 Break

13.00 - 14.00 Third Session

Status of multi-stakeholder action to strengthen private sector integrity and recommendations for action

Objective: provide specialized platforms to enable the different groups of stakeholders (business, government, and civil society) to (i) reflect on their own efforts in the area of private sector integrity assessing the achievements already made in this area; (ii) identify actions that they can possibly undertake, collectively or independently, to advance these efforts in light of existing opportunities and challenges; and (iii) outline their expectations of the other groups of stakeholders including possibilities for joint initiatives.

Moderated by Mr. Abdul Rahman MUTAWAA, Secretary General of the Saafah Foundtation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Disucssion

Closing remarks

Mr. Arkan EL SEBLANI, Manager, Regional Project on Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Arab Countries, UNDP

14.00 Lunch