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## **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA**

Expert Group Meeting on external peer review for the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2010-2011  
UN House, Beirut, 16 December 2011

### **INFORMATION NOTE**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA) is organizing an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) in order to review the preliminary work and results concerning its programmed activity, “the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2010-2011.” The Survey addresses the current Socio-economic indicators in the region focusing on the important subject of “Social Protection”.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this EGM is to review the draft socioeconomic survey prepared by ESCWA for 2011. Before the launching of the survey we would like to receive critical views from selected experts, suggestions and reaction to the content and form of this survey, the first by ESCWA after the tremendous events in the Arab region. The Socioeconomic survey covers main economic and social trends in member countries in 2011 and provides preliminary projections in 2012. In addition to the general chapters covering traditional macroeconomic and social indicators, this year's edition focuses on the subject of the Social Protection, as one major theme in the political landslide in the region.

#### **Date and Venue**

The EGM will be held at the United Nations House, Riad El-Solh Square, Beirut-Lebanon, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

#### **Languages**

Language of the meeting will be English.

#### **Participants**

A group of experts with social and economic expertise will be selected.

#### **DOCUMENTS**

In line with the above-mentioned objectives, the documentation for the EGM will include the following:

*The Preliminary draft of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA region for 2010-2011.*

#### **ARRANGEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE EGM**

**ESCWA will bear the cost of travel and daily subsistence for selected experts.** Participants and observers from regional and international organizations will be responsible for their own travel and subsistence expenses.

Upon request, ESCWA will assist in facilitating hotel accommodation for participants. However, all participants will be responsible for making their own arrangements with regard to passports, visas, health certificates and/or other documentation necessary for travel to Lebanon.

Further information on the programme of work of the EGM and other administrative matters will be communicated to the participants in due course.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

All correspondence concerning the expert group meeting should be addressed to:

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