Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT

OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
BEIRUT, 6-7 APRIL 2011

Summary

The Technical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its fifth meeting at the United Nations House on 6 and 7 April 2011 bringing together representatives of ESCWA member countries.

The Committee agenda included diverse items, specifically the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA and its subsidiary bodies and regional and international priorities: the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20); and good governance during conflict; the ESCWA proposed programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013; the implementation of resolutions adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-sixth session and the most important developments in the various fields of action.

This report reviews significant issues raised in discussions as well as the main recommendations adopted by participants following the discussion of each agenda item.
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Introduction

1. The Technical Committee was established pursuant to the decision of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) at its twenty-fourth session held in Beirut from 8 to 11 May 2006 for the purpose of enhancing direct communication between the secretariat of the Commission and member countries on issues of economic and social development. The Committee convenes periodically to follow up on global and regional developments and the implementation of the ESCWA programme of work, as well as to provide support for its activities and projects.

2. The Technical Committee held its fifth meeting at the United Nations House in Beirut on 6 and 7 April 2011. The first meeting was convened on Wednesday, 6 April 2011 at 10 a.m. in the main conference hall. Following the opening session in which participants considered the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA and its subsidiary bodies and the opinions of member countries about its work, the discussion of agenda items was initiated. At the evening session, participants discussed regional and global priorities: the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and good governance during conflict.

3. On the second day, representatives of member countries and the secretariat discussed the remaining agenda items, mainly the ESCWA proposed programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013; the implementation of resolutions adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-sixth session and the most important developments in the various fields of action. This report reviews the issues raised during discussions and the recommendations adopted by participants.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

4. At the end of the fifth meeting, the Technical Committee reached a number of recommendations and suggestions, some of which were related to topics included on the agenda while others refer to the nature and realization of the work of ESCWA and the Committee.

   (a) To limit ESCWA membership to Arab countries for the purpose of enhancing cooperation with the League of Arab States, the Gulf Cooperation Council and other regional organizations, in accordance with ESCWA procedures;

   (b) To maintain the current frequency of the seven committee sessions;

   (c) To propose new and innovative ideas and develop clear and convincing programmes encouraging donors to provide ESCWA with extrabudgetary funds;

   (d) To set a timetable for the execution of the demands of member countries approved by ESCWA;

   (e) To promote coordination and communication between the secretariat and the member countries;

   (f) To convene meetings, whenever needed, between ESCWA and the official focal points in the member countries to organize national workshops in the ESCWA fields of specialization;

   (g) To ask the concerned parties in the member countries to take part in preparations for the Rio+20 Conference on regional and international levels and to take ownership of the Arab initiatives adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment;

   (h) To ask the secretariat to prepare a report on the progress achieved in preparation for the Rio+20 Conference and to submit it to the Technical Committee during its sixth meeting. The report should include a proposal for a draft resolution on the green economy in the Arab region to be adopted during the twenty-seventh ESCWA session;
(i) To ask the member countries to forward their remarks about the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013 within three weeks from this date; and to ask the secretariat to make the appropriate amendments and send the final version back to the member countries.

II. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MECHANISM OF ESCWA AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(Item 3 of the agenda)


6. Examination of the first document started by identifying the objectives of the evaluation which are: to measure the effectiveness of the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA in achieving its expected goals; to facilitate the interaction and coordination between the ESCWA secretariat and member countries and between member countries concerning regional priorities and emerging issues on economic and social levels and to pave the way for execution, monitoring and follow-up on decisions and recommendations. A consultant carried out the evaluation, which covers the period from January 2004 to June 2009, using a three-pillar methodology: reviewing the available literature; interviewing the concerned parties and organizing an electronic survey. After determining suggested areas for improvement, the evaluation concluded with a set of recommendations on how to improve the current structure of the intergovernmental mechanism. It was agreed to submit these recommendations to the next ESCWA session for approval.

7. While examining the second document, the representative of the secretariat focused on the main results of the evaluation in reflecting the current situation and summarized the suggestions of the consultant and the observations of the secretariat. These suggestions included improving the current intergovernmental structure; reducing the effects of the unstable political and security situation on the work of ESCWA; enhancing cooperation between ESCWA, United Nations organizations, the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council; monitoring and evaluating the programme of work; coordinating with the other regional commissions; ensuring the participation of the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA in all the decision-making phases; increasing the small number of ESCWA member countries; raising funds; opening subregional bureaus; creating a policy guide; clarifying the functions of the secretariat; increasing the international character of the work of ESCWA and the structure of the intergovernmental mechanism.

8. While commenting on this subject, the delegates agreed to limit ESCWA membership to the Arab countries in order to maintain the regional character of the organization, allowing it to cooperate effectively with the League of Arab States and the other regional organizations, based on its location in the heart of the United Nations. According to the evaluation report, the accession of new countries to ESCWA would not bring any added value to the Commission. In a framework of fruitful and mutual cooperation, it is better to promote the participation of current member countries in a series of projects that reflect the aspirations of the region and its countries and keep pace with economic and social developments. In regards to funding, the report does not specify how to provide extrabudgetary resources or suggest innovative ways to convince donors to finance ESCWA programmes and projects.

9. The Palestinian representative noted that certain paragraphs of the report only describe the current situation rather than suggest practical solutions to it and neglect other issues such as the technical cooperation network. He asked the ESCWA secretariat to clearly define the functions of the specialized committees to increase coordination and avoid any duplication of work. The representative of Oman raised some questions about the evaluation criteria, mainly those related to the effectiveness of ESCWA work. He asked for clarification of the roles of ESCWA and the United Nations Development Programme in order to
expand coordination and joint action. The discussion also addressed coordination between the focal points and the ESCWA secretariat.

10. In response to those observations, it was noted that the evaluation report was prepared following an ESCWA recommendation, made during its twenty-fifth session, to change the frequency of specialized committee sessions and consider related financial, organizational and administrative consequences. Evaluation results were made available to member countries for consideration and consultation with ESCWA concerning the feasibility of suggestions. There is firm resolve on the part of ESCWA to inform the focal points about the work of the specialized committees through direct contact.

11. At the end of the discussion, participants unanimously agreed to take note of the content of the evaluation report and to adopt a series of relevant recommendations, primarily to maintain the current frequency of the seven committee sessions; to limit membership to Arab countries willing to join; not to open subregional bureaux.

B. VIEWS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THE WORK OF ESCWA:
SUCCESES AND POSSIBLE AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT
(Item 4 of the agenda)

12. The secretariat included this item on the agenda in order to benefit from constructive criticism provided by member countries to improve its performance in the various areas covered by the ESCWA programme of work. The Technical Committee reviewed the views of Lebanon and the Sudan under this item. The two representatives highlighted strengths and weaknesses and proposed ways to improve performance.

13. In Lebanon, ESCWA has provided advisory services to many ministries in such various fields as the environment and water, social development, economic development, transport, education, statistics and others. It has also contributed by holding a number of seminars, training sessions and workshops. In the field of transport, concerned parties in Lebanon used the ESCWA guide on the establishment of national committees for facilitating transport and trade to constitute the national committee on the facilitation of transport and trade. They completed the procedures for accession to all agreements and memoranda of understanding developed under the auspices of ESCWA. The representative of Lebanon pointed out areas where ESCWA can enhance its performance such as by providing advisory services with the cooperation of concerned parties; organizing periodic gatherings with the official focal points; examining the possibility of organizing a national workshop to advise specialized administrations of the nature of the advisory and technical services provided by the Commission.

14. The representative of the Sudan highlighted the most important achievements of ESCWA in his country, mainly in providing advisory services and capacity-building programmes in priority areas such as water, the environment, socio-economic development and statistics. He stated that after the formation of his new Government, the Ministry of Foreign Trade was designated as a focal point with ESCWA instead of the Ministry of International Cooperation. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of cooperation between the Sudan and ESCWA since joining the Commission, praising its achievements and looking forward to further cooperation.

15. During the discussion, participants commended this experience, mainly the suggestions of the Lebanese representative concerning the focal points and the organization of national workshops. The representative of Iraq pointed to the weak cooperation between ESCWA and her country, stating that due to the security situation, Iraq benefits less from programmes and training sessions than the other member countries. She noted that there are no security risks in many Iraqi provinces, inviting ESCWA to carry out activities there. It should be noted that the demands of Iraq are channelled through the Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues Section and many capacity-building programmes will be carried out in Erbil. The
participants commended the request of the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants to provide training to diplomats to participate in the specialized global conferences organized by the United Nations.

**C. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PRIORITIES: THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20); AND GOOD GOVERNANCE DURING CONFLICT AND ASSOCIATED CRISES**

(Item 5 of the agenda)

16. Under this item, the Technical Committee examined the document E/ESCWA/2011/C.5/4 that includes two regional and global priorities: The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and Good Governance during Conflict.

1. **United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**

17. The representative of the secretariat explained the role of ESCWA in preparing for the Rio+20 Conference with the cooperation of certain concerned regional parties. The Conference focuses on the institutional framework of sustainable development and a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The presentation defined the concept of a green economy and the challenges facing its application in the region. It also determined the roles of the public and private sectors, international organizations, financial institutions, civil society and concerned parties in the transition to a green economy. Possible approaches for adopting such an economy on legal, institutional and economic levels were examined, including benefits, risks and the necessity of avoiding any negative impact on marginalized groups.

18. The representative of the secretariat drew attention to a number of problems that accompany the transition to a green economy and highlighted ways that allow developing countries to achieve the transition in accordance with the principles of justice and fairness and the importance of regional integration and cooperation in this context, stressing the need of an Arab ministerial initiative for the green economy to be adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment. Preparations for the Rio+20 Conference included a meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, a training workshop on the green economy and a regional meeting for the Conference. These steps will lead to a draft decision on the green economy in the Arab region, to be adopted during the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA. It includes a request to member countries to support ESCWA in coordinating and harmonizing regional initiatives that pave the way for the Rio+20 Conference.

19. While commenting on this topic, participants noted the role that ESCWA can assume in defining the principles of a green economy and highlighting its importance in different fields.

2. **Good governance during conflict**

20. The representative of the secretariat stressed the importance of establishing mechanisms of good governance in conflict-affected countries to restore peace on its territories. The components of good governance include the involvement of civil society, the establishment of the rule of law, anti-corruption policies and the promotion of transparency. The ESCWA region still lacks such components and many reasons prevent countries in the region from breaking the cycle of conflict and hinder the establishment of good governance including the lack of political will, the weakness of the state structure and many external agents. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a model of governance based on the optimal use of resources to provide the different categories of the society with the essential services. This will help reduce the impact of conflict on development and contribute to enhancing peacebuilding efforts. The optimal use of resources requires political will, enhancement of the capacities of national institutions and coordination of donor support. The presentation concluded with a reference to the interdependence of good governance indicators and their role in enabling each country to launch the reform process, taking into consideration specific political, economic and social characteristics.
21. While commenting on this topic, the representative of Palestine stated that good governance is a new concept requiring ESCWA to undertake research and studies to clearly explain its components, benefits and ways to establish it in the local context, determining the necessary steps for application in each country.

D. ESCWA PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIAL 2012-2013

(Item 6 of the agenda)

22. The secretariat made a presentation on the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013. It included expected outcomes from the seven subprogrammes constituting Programme 18 on economic and social development in Western Asia, which belongs to the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013. These subprogrammes deal with integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development, integrated social policies, development and economic integration, the use of information and communication technologies for development to achieve regional integration, the use of statistics in formulating evidence-based policies, the advancement of women, conflict mitigation and development. The presentation detailed desired goals, defining the strategy, achievement indicators, performance measurement and external factors that might affect the execution of each programme.

23. Participants commented on this item and stressed the importance of giving enough time to member countries to examine various elements of the programme, give their comments and propose amendments. Some representatives considered that certain indicators of the programme need to be reviewed to better reflect expected outcome. Representatives also discussed certain topics in depth such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and financing for development. They commended the importance of attempting to foresee the economic future of the ESCWA region in preparation for the expected publication on the situation of the Arab region in 2025.

24. Participants stressed the importance of coordinating between the focal points and the secretariat in the various fields of cooperation and of continuing training and following up with trainers to take advantage of the information and skills acquired in the framework of practical projects. They noted similarity between the activities listed in the recent programmes and called for developing innovative ideas in line with economic and social developments in the region.

E. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ESCWA AT ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

(Item 7 of the agenda)

25. Within this item, the secretariat reviewed measures undertaken in the application of resolutions adopted by ESCWA in its twenty-sixth session on the various aspects of its work and issues of interest to member countries.

Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues Section

26. The representative of the secretariat presented the progress achieved in the implementation of Resolution 292 (XXVI) on Upgrading the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues to the level of a division and establishing a governmental committee on emerging issues and development in conflict settings. The Economic and Social Council is currently discussing it for a decision during its next session. It will then be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly for approval. The presentation also addressed Resolution 296 (XXVI) on Enhancing Public Sector Institutions and Resources to attain National Development Goals and projects implemented, workshops convened and technical assistance provided in the field of capacity-building were reviewed.

Centre for Women

27. The representative of the secretariat highlighted the progress achieved in the implementation of Resolution 293 (XXVI) on Upgrading the ESCWA Centre for Women to the level of a division and follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the Arab countries after fifteen years:
Beijing+15. He stated that upgrading the Centre for Women to the level of a division will be effective as of its approval by the Economic and Social Council during its next session in June 2011 and by the General Assembly. In listing the achievements of the Centre he cited the organization of training sessions in the member countries on the enforcement of international resolutions and the integration of gender perspective in policies.

**Information and Communication Technology Division**

28. The representative of the secretariat gave a presentation on progress achieved in the implementation of Resolution 294 (XXVI) on the Establishment of the ESCWA Technology Centre. He explained the procedures for its establishment, the signing of the host country agreement between ESCWA and Jordan and sending letters to concerned focal points to invite member countries to nominate candidates to the Board of Governors in preparation for the establishment of the Centre.

**Social Development Division**

29. The representative of the secretariat gave a presentation on progress achieved in the implementation of Resolution 295 (XXVI) on the Guiding Declaration of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on giving greater attention to Youth Policies: an Opportunity for Development. Many activities were carried out in this field such as the meeting of the expert group on 29 and 30 March 2011 on the follow-up to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond in the ESCWA region and the cooperation with a number of regional organizations in this field. The presentation noted, at the end, the change in the title of subprogramme 2 from "integrated social policies" to "social development" in the proposed programme budget of ESCWA for the biennium 2012-2013, pursuant to Resolution 298 (XXVI).

**Statistics Division**

30. The representative of the secretariat gave a presentation on the most significant activities pursuant to Resolution 297 (XXVI) on the Arab MDG monitor for social progress, including analysis of the reasons behind the discrepancies between national and international sources of data, the evaluation of statistical data quality from various sources and the study of the working methods for the establishment of a monitoring mechanism.

**Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division**

31. The representative of the secretariat highlighted amendments introduced to the programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 pursuant to Resolution 299 (XXVI) on the Adoption of the amendments introduced to the programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011. The secretariat is in charge of monitoring and following up on this programme and continues addressing emerging issues in the region and integrating them into the ESCWA programme of work and activities, to the extent that it is possible.

**F. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT**

(Item 8 of the agenda)

1. **The major activities carried out since the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA**

32. The secretariat gave a presentation on the major activities carried out since the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA.

**Ninth session of the Statistical Committee**

33. The Statistical Committee convened its ninth session from 13 to 15 October 2010. Main subjects discussed included the importance of building capacity on national and regional levels through benefiting from support provided by ESCWA, justification of national data and working with the United Nations
Statistics Division and other agencies to explain the discrepancies between data issued by the national statistical offices and those issued by the United Nations agencies. Participants made a series of suggestions to the Statistics Division on coordinating with the member countries and providing them with the required technical support.

Fourteenth meeting of the regional coordination mechanism

34. The fourteenth meeting of the regional coordination mechanism was convened on 11 and 12 November 2010 in Beirut. It was dedicated to discussing a number of subjects, mainly the perspectives of youth from public and private sectors concerning the challenges facing them in the Arab region, the integration of the views of Arab countries in the agendas of regional and international policies and review of the progress achieved in the main activities as decided during the thirteenth meeting of the mechanism. Participants issued a set of recommendations seeking the creation of a working group on statistical coordination in order to identify the most significant difficulties facing capacity-building and continued dialogue with the office of the Deputy Secretary-General to determine how to facilitate the participation of the High-level Committee on Programmes in the future meetings of the mechanism.

Eighth session of the Energy Committee

35. The Energy Committee held its eighth session in Beirut on 13 and 14 December 2010. It discussed a number of topics, mainly the dissemination of renewable energy services in rural areas of ESCWA member countries, mitigation of climate change effects through the energy sector, generating electricity from renewable energy, the current situation of the transport sector and generating energy from the treatment of waste. Its recommendations included supporting cooperation with the League of Arab States and United Nations and regional organizations in all areas of mutual concern; elaborating a proposal for an organizational framework based on available legislation to determine ways to implement such activities; raising awareness; building capacity and implementing pioneer projects.

Ninth session of the Committee on Water Resources

36. The Committee on Water Resources held its ninth session in Beirut from 23 to 25 March 2011. The session mainly discussed the assessment of the vulnerability of water resources sector in the Arabic region to climate change; progress achieved in the formulation of a regional initiative for developing a mechanism to follow up on the achievement of health and sanitation-related MDGs and the establishment of a regional legal framework on shared water in the Arab region. Participants made a set of recommendations on the different topics for discussion.

Eighth session of the Committee on Social Development

37. The Committee on Social Development held its eighth session in Beirut on 24 and 25 March 2011. The session mainly discussed poverty reduction among persons with special needs and the involvement of civil society in developing general and national youth policies. Participants made a set of recommendations on facing the main social challenges in urban areas; adopting a global approach in developing social policies with a focus on vulnerable populations and maintaining the two-day duration of the Committee session.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTH MEETING

38. A number of recommendations and suggestions resulted from the fourth meeting of the Technical Committee, mainly concerning its terms of reference, dates of meetings, evaluation of the ESCWA work programme, participants to the meetings and other recommendations on ways to realize Committee initiatives. The secretariat gave a presentation on measures undertaken for the implementation of those recommendations, especially those related to allowing member countries to address their comments on the work of ESCWA during the next meetings, given the importance of such views in evaluating achievements and determining strengths and ways to improve performance.
G. DATE AND VENUE OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
(Item 9 of the agenda)

39. Participants agreed to hold the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee at ESCWA headquarters in Beirut, on a date to be decided by the secretariat in consultation with the Commission session bureau.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT ITS FIFTH MEETING  
(Item 11 of the agenda)

40. The Technical Committee reviewed and adopted recommendations issued at its fifth meeting, with the provision that any suggested amendments thereto would be incorporated and included in a comprehensive report on the actions and results of the meeting.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE MEETING

41. The Technical Committee held its fifth meeting at the United Nations House in Beirut on 6 and 7 April 2011. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Technical Committee that stipulate that the chairmanship of the Committee shall coincide with the chairmanship of the ESCWA session, Jordan chaired this meeting in its capacity as Chair of the twenty-sixth session, held in Beirut from 17 to 20 May 2010.

B. OPENING

42. The Technical Committee held its fifth meeting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 6 April 2011 at the United Nations House. Mr. Saleh Al-Kharabsheh, Secretary-General of the Jordanian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and Chair of the fifth meeting of the Technical Committee praised the role of ESCWA in supporting development programmes in member countries. He stressed the importance of the meeting in the light of the many events and changes the region is currently witnessing, noting that development programmes cannot achieve their expected goals unless they are accompanied by a clear move towards modernization and economic and social reforms. He stressed the role of ESCWA in working with member countries in building regional economies on firm foundations. Such economies should respect human rights and grow under developed mechanisms to achieve sustainable development.

43. Ms. Rima Khalaf, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCWA started her statement welcoming the participants and stressing the role of the Technical Committee in determining the priorities of the ESCWA programmes of work according to the development needs of the member countries. She noted that within the current circumstances of the region, development concepts and programmes should be reviewed and priorities redefined in order to enable the countries of the region to meet the challenges and promote development in an atmosphere of transparency and social justice. She then briefly reviewed the agenda items and pointed out the importance of each of them, stating that the one concerning the points of views of member countries on the work of ESCWA is intended to enhance its performance and develop programmes in line with emerging global and regional issues. She concluded with an invitation to strengthen cooperation in order to address issues that individual efforts cannot resolve alone.

C. PARTICIPANTS

44. The fifth meeting of the Technical Committee was attended by representatives of member countries. A list of participants is included in annex I of this report.
D. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

45. The Technical Committee adopted the agenda of its fifth meeting in the version set forth in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.5/L.1. The agenda in its adopted form was as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. The intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA and its subsidiary bodies:
   (a) Evaluation of the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA and its subsidiary bodies;
   (b) Key options for the intergovernmental mechanism of ESCWA and its subsidiary bodies for consideration by ESCWA at its twenty-seventh session.
4. Views of member countries on the work of ESCWA: successes and possible areas of improvement.
5. Regional and global priorities: the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and good governance during conflict and associated crises.
8. Progress Achieved in the work of the secretariat:
   (a) Major activities carried out since the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA;
   (b) Implementation of recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fourth meeting.
9. Date and venue of the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report of the Technical Committee on its fifth meeting.

46. The Technical Committee also examined the proposed organization of work and adopted it in its modified form as set forth in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.5/L.2.

E. DOCUMENTS

47. Annex II of this report contains the documents examined by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting.
Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Egypt

Mr. Mohamed Mamdouh
Consultant
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon

Iraq

Ms. Nawal Abbas Mahdi el-Baghdadi
Director General of the Human Development Service
Ministry of Planning

Ms. Nour el-Hashemi
Attaché
Embassy of Iraq in Lebanon

Jordan

Mr. Saleh el Kharabsheh
Secretary General
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Ms. Zeina Toukan
Director
International Cooperation Department
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Ms. Raghd el-Shakhanbeh
Researcher
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Ms. Nesrine el-Kassous
Second secretary
Embassy of Jordan in Lebanon

Kuwait

Mr. Hamad al-Manawer
Assistant Secretary General
Supreme Council for Planning and Development

Mr. Jaber Abbas Kabazard
Director - Strategic Planning Administration
General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development

Mr. Abdallah Mansour al-Furaih
First Economic Consultant
Supreme Council for Planning and Development

Mr. Meshaal Mnawwar el-Aridi
International Organisation Observer
Department of International Economic Cooperation
Ministry of Finance

Ms. Rania El-Salem
Economic Researcher
Department of International Economic Cooperation
Ministry of Finance

Lebanon

Mr. Abbas Mutairik
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Mr. Walid Haidar
Assistant Director of International Organizations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Mr. Kamal Abi Morched
Diplomat
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Oman

Mr. Hamad Ben Jaber Ben Saoud el-Mahrouqi
Director General of the Service Sector Development Directorate
Ministry of National Economy

Ms. Souad bent Mohamed ben Youssef el-Fadel
Director of the Technical Cooporation Service
Ministry of National Economy
Palestine

Mr. Mahmoud Ataya
General Administration of the Social Sector
Planning
Ministry of Planning and Administrative
Development

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Bandar ben Abdul Aziz el-Wayli
Under-secretary Planning Affairs
Ministry of Planning and Economy

Mr. Abdallah Ali el-Marwani
Director, Studies and Research Administration
Supervisor, Regional Planning Administration
Ministry of Planning and Economy

Mr. Majed ben Ramzi Attieh
First Secretary
Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Lebanon

The Sudan

Mr. Najm el Deen Daoud Ahmad
Under-secretary of the Ministry of Internal Trade

Mr. Makki Mirgheni Osman
Director General
Directorate General for external resources
Ministry of International Cooperation

Mr. Idriss Soleiman Youssef
Ambassador of the Sudan in Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

Mr. Bachar el-Assaad
Third Secretary
Embassy of the Arab Syrian Republic in Lebanon

Ms. Dima Seifi
Embassy of the Arab Syrian Republic in Lebanon

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Ahmad Mohamed el-Mazroui
Chargé d’Affaires
Embassy of the United Arab Emirates
in Lebanon

Yemen

Mr. Abdul Karim Hussein el-Mahakri
Minister
Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of Yemen in Lebanon

Mr. Amin Mohsen el-Hamadani
Chief, Economic Affairs and International Organisations
Second Secretary
Embassy of Yemen in Lebanon
### Annex II

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