

Euro- Med Workshop on Better Regulation and Regulatory Impact Assessment

**At the OECD Headquarters
Conference Centre Room CC2
2 rue André Pascal - 75016 Paris
Paris, 4 and 5 December 2012**

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Context of workshop

The Euro –Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise ¹sets a framework for the development of an environment to support enterprises in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Guidelines are grouped in eleven “dimensions”. The first of them relates to simple procedures.

Progress in implementing the Charter guidelines was evaluated in 2008 and recommendations for further progress formulated. As part of that framework, the Ministers of Industry in the Euro-Med region, the EU and the OECD agreed in 2011 to hold training workshops. Two of them focus on Dimension 1 of the Charter: Simple procedures. The first workshop addressed the theme of better public services for competitive enterprises.

This is the second of those Workshops. It addresses an area highlighted in the Charter for action, namely, the need to introduce practices to assess the impact of new legislation on business, paying particular attention to SMEs. The Institutions and Member States of the EU and most OECD countries have developed policies over the last decade to assess the impact of new legislation on business.

These policies need, however, to be seen in the wider context of Better Regulation policies, that is to say policies aimed at improving the quality of the ‘flow’ of new regulations by better policy making and law drafting and by reviewing and keeping up to date and relevant the ‘stock’ of existing regulations.

The guiding principle for policy makers should be to keep burdensome requirements to a minimum in meeting public policy objectives.

The objective of this workshop

The objective of this workshop is, therefore, to provide participants with an understanding of impact assessment and where it fits into a wider process of better regulatory management, i.e., improving the flow of new regulations and the stock of existing regulations. Accordingly, the workshop will provide participants with an overall perspective on developments in EU and OECD countries as regards regulatory management or ‘Better Regulation’.

It will provide a forum for an exchange of views on the need for better regulatory management, how it could be achieved in their countries, in general, and the potential usefulness of impact assessment in particular.

The workshop will allow participants to undertake a simulated impact assessment to assist and develop their understanding of this tool.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/international/files/charter_11_dimensions_en.pdf

Target groups of workshop

The workshop seeks to bring together senior policy advisors and public managers dealing with policy making generally and policies to improve the regulatory environment for business. The delegations of the countries should also include business and employer associations, social partners and civil society organisations. The participants will include:

- Officials and public **servants** dealing with regulatory management (in particular those concerned with the improvement of the regulatory environment for business).
- Representatives of business associations.
- Representatives of employer organisations.
- Civil Society Organisations.

PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 04 DECEMBER 2012

09.00 - 09.30	REGISTRATION
09.30 - 10.00	Session 1: WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP
	<p>Chair: Ms. Karen Hill, Head of SIGMA, OECD</p> <p>Introduction, overview, context and objectives of workshop</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Jean-Louis Lavroff, Deputy Head of Unit , DG DEVCO F4, European Commission,</p> <p>Ms. Marie Corman, DG Enterprise A, 2, European Commission,</p>
	Session 2: IMPROVED REGULATORY MANAGEMENT: A FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVED GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
10.00 – 10.30	<p>Chair: Mr. Faisal Naru, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Edward Donelan, SIGMA, OECD</p>
10.30 – 11.00	Questions and discussion
11.00 – 11.30	COFFEE BREAK
11.30 -12.30	Session 3: REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: ITS ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in OECD countries with particular reference to the experience of France and the Commission of the European Union, and – A European Union Perspective

	<p>Chair: Mr. Faisal Naru, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>France : Mr.Olivier Cortès, Adjoint au chef du département de la qualité du droit Secrétariat général du Gouvernement Service de la législation et de la qualité du droit.</p> <p>EU : Mr Marc Pirrung, Policy Analyst, Economic Analysis and Impact Assessment, DG ENTR, European Commission</p> <p>Questions and discussion</p>
12.30 – 13.00	<p>Session 4:</p> <p>EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED SIMULATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT EXERCISE:</p>
	<p>Speakers: Edward Donelan and Marc Pirrung</p> <p>The participants will be divided by country into 3 groups. Each will be asked to undertake an impact assessment on a fictional policy to ban smoking in all public places in an imaginary country.</p> <p>Each group will appoint a rapporteur to report back to plenary session of Workshop.</p>
13.00 – 14.30	LUNCH
14.30 – 15.30	<p>Session 4:</p> <p>CONTINUED:</p> <p>GROUPS MEET IN 3 MEETING ROOMS</p>
	<p>Group nr. 1: Meeting room CC 2 : Algeria, Egypt, Israel</p> <p>Group nr. 2 : Meeting room CC 16: Jordan, Lebanon,Libya</p> <p>Group nr. 3 : Meeting room CC 18 : Morocco, Palestinian Authority and Tunisia</p>
15.30 16.30	<p>Chair: Ms Karen Hill, Head of SIGMA</p> <p>Rapporteurs report back to the main group (each report should be 5 minutes or less)</p> <p>Chair and experts present will comment on findings of Country reports</p>
16.30 – 16.45	COFFEE BREAK

16.45 – 18.00	<p>Session 5:</p> <p>A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WILL MAKE A SHORT PRESENTATION ON HOW POLICIES ARE FORMULATED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES, WHETHER OR NOT IMPACT ASSESSMENT IS USED AND, IF NOT HOW COULD IT BE INTRODUCED?</p>
	<p>Chair: Mr. Keit Kasemets, SIGMA, OECD</p> <p>Speakers will include:</p> <p>Dr. Mohamed Amr Mohamed A.Eleish, Undersecretary - Police Advocacy Sector, General Authority of Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), Egypt</p> <p>Mr. Nir Ben-Aharon, Head of Research & Policy Department Small and Medium Business Agency, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labour, Israel</p> <p>Mr. Moheeb Jabari, Head of Industrial License Division, Ministry of National Economy, the Palestine Authority</p>
18:00-20:00	<p>COCKTAIL</p> <p>GEORGE MARSHALL ROOM IN THE CHÂTEAU</p>

WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

09:00 – 09:40	Session: 6: SMALL BUSINESS LEGISLATION: SOME EXAMPLES ²
	<p>Chair: Mr. Brian Finn, SIGMA, OECD</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Mohamed Dhif, Directeur Général du CNRC (National Business Registration Centre) Ministry of Commerce, Algeria</p> <p>M. Mohamed Hatim Skalli, Chargé d'Etudes auprès du Chef du Gouvernement, Ministère des Affaires Générales et de la Gouvernance, Morocco</p>
09.40 – 10.00	DISCUSSION
10.00 – 10.20	Session: 7 MANAGING THE STOCK OF LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
	<p>Chair: Mr. Greg Bounds, Deputy Head, Regulatory Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Edward Donelan, SIGMA, OECD</p> <p>Ms. Lama Oueijan, Advisor to the Minister of Finance (and in charge of implementing new taxation schemes affecting the SMEs). Ministry of Finance, Lebanon</p>
10.20 – 11.00	<p>Questions to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How accessible is legislation in their countries, (is it available electronically or on paper),

² The European Commission has developed a **Small Business Act for Europe**. The Act reflects the Commission's political will to recognise the central role of SMEs in the EU economy and for the first time puts into place a comprehensive SME policy framework for the EU and its Member States. It aims to improve the overall approach to entrepreneurship, to irreversibly anchor the "Think Small first" principle in policy making, from regulation to public service, and to promote SMEs' growth by helping them tackle the remaining problems which hamper their development.

Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - "Think Small First" - A "Small Business Act" for Europe (COM/2008/0394 final)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How is the stock of legislation managed in their respective countries? ▪ Does the lack of easily available legislation present a problem for businesses, ▪ If there is outdated legislation still in force, does this present problems for businesses and citizens?
11.00 – 11.30	COFFEE BREAK
11.30 – 12.00	Session: 8: EVALUATION OF PROJECTS: JORDANIAN EXPERIENCE
	<p>Chair: Ms Bianca Brétéché, SIGMA, OECD</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Sakher AlBadareen, Senior Evaluator, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan</p>
12.00 – 12.30	Discussion
12.30 – 13.00	Concluding remarks by SIGMA and European Commission
13.00	Conclusion of Workshop