A Year in Summary

During Fiscal Year (FY) 16, METAC fielded 63 missions and seven regional workshops accounting for 235 person weeks. Technical Assistance (TA) delivery took place for all METAC member countries except Syria and Yemen. Egypt received the largest share of TA resources (21 percent), followed by Sudan (18 percent) and Lebanon and Jordan (15 percent each). For Iraq, delivery increased compared to last FY, from one percent in FY15 to nine percent this FY.

Starting next month, four new members will join METAC (Algeria, Djibouti, Morocco and Tunisia). The agenda for the new countries was prepared based on consultations with the IMF Middle East and Central Asia Department and the IMF TA departments based on their experiences acquired by working on these countries. The agenda will be revised/developed further after METAC advisors visit the new countries and discuss in depth their TA needs.

Technical Assistance Missions

West Bank and Gaza

**Banking Supervision**

A mission to the Palestine Monetary Authority was conducted during April 3-14, 2016 by METAC short-term expert who trained the PMA supervisors on the implementation of the risk-based inspection manual that METAC has assisted in its development and assessed the risks of a systemically important banks by using the risk assessment methodology of this manual.

**Statistics**

During April 17-14, 2016 a METAC mission assisted the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in further developing the national accounts. The mission reviewed the sources and procedures, and assisted the PCBS in enhancing the quarterly accounts, including rebasing of the quarterly time series to the annual volumes at 2010 base year. The PCBS priorities in developing the national accounts further, in particular in introducing a system for integrated economic accounts, were discussed and aligned with METAC’s program for capacity development.

Revenue Administration

**Sudan**

A METAC expert reviewed progress to date with the pilot implementation of the Risk Management system at Khartoum International Airport. This was recommended in an earlier METAC mission in May, 2015. Plans for the future development of a Customs Intelligence TA reports function to support effective Risk Management were also developed.

**Egypt**

A METAC expert and the resident advisor assisted with updating the implementation, risk management and compliance management plans developed to support the launch of VAT. The need for further TA inputs was also discussed.

Uploaded Technical Assistance Reports

Iraq - banking supervision, "Priorities for the Development of Central Bank of Iraq Regulations".