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Technical Assistance (TA) Missions

Banking Supervision

Algeria



To support Bank of Algeria's (BA) efforts to implement Pillar 2 of Basel II and III and to respond to the recommendation, METAC assisted the authorities in clarifying the concept of related parties, as recommended by the 2013 Financial Stability Assessment Program (FSAP), and provided specific suggestions to amend the BA regulation related to this topic. It also delivered a workshop on the objectives, framework, design and implementation of the internal capital adequacy assessment process (ICAAP) as an essential element in assessing capital needs.

Egypt

METAC delivered a workshop to the Central Bank of Egypt's (CBE) supervisors on the techniques of stress testing as an important tool for assessing the resilience of individual banks to adverse economic and financial conditions in a forward-looking perspective. The workshop aimed at enhancing the capacity of CBE's on-site and off-site supervisors in detecting banks' vulnerabilities within the supervisory review process, particularly following the recent devaluation of the Egyptian pound.

Iraq

As part of Iraq's Stand-By Arrangement with the IMF, the Central Bank of Iraq committed to prepare

regulatory changes to strengthen prudential standards and bank supervision, with the support of METAC. In this context, METAC completed the drafting of regulations on (i) risk management framework, (ii) loan classification and provisioning, (iii) credit risk management to provide a comprehensive bank-wide view of credit exposures consistent with a bank's risk appetite, (iv) measuring and managing concentration risk, (v) large exposures measured on solo and consolidated bases, and (vi) related parties' exposures, in line with Basel Committee on Banking Supervision guidelines, and after considering the Iraqi context. These regulations set out certain detailed requirements and reporting obligations for banks.

Lebanon

Per the 2016 FSAP recommendations and to support the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL)'s efforts to enhance its risk-management framework, METAC delivered a workshop on stress testing. It trained the BCCL supervisors on the techniques and implementation of stress tests as an essential tool to assess the resilience of individual banks against economic and financial shocks. The training focused on how the BCCL supervisors can use supervisory data to create single-factor sensitivity tests for generic credit risk, sectoral credit risk, large-exposure credit risk, foreign-exchange risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, and interbank contagion risk. METAC plans to continue this capacity development program in Financial Year 2018 including to cover multi-period stress testing.

Morocco

To support Bank Al-Maghrib (BAM) preparation to move to a flexible foreign exchange regime, METAC continued its capacity development on supervising market risk from a risk-based perspective and mapping market risk. The mission identified the regulatory texts and supervisory procedures that require adjustments in order to enhance further the supervision of market risk. Follow-up missions are planned throughout the Fiscal Year 2018.

Sudan

To support the Central Bank of Sudan's (CBS) efforts to strengthen banking supervision, METAC reviewed the current inspection manual and provided recommendations to align it with risk-based supervision. This assistance is expected to continue throughout Fiscal Year 2018, with a view to help the CBS establish a risk-based supervision framework in Sudan.

Public Financial Management

Jordan

METAC joined an IMF-HQ mission to Jordan to work with the authorities on the structural benchmark on trust accounts under the IMF's Extended Fund Facility (EFF), on which it had provided assistance in January/February and December 2016. During this mission, METAC assessed the progress achieved in implementing the structural benchmark, and eliminated the discrepancies between the fiscal balance and the financing data in the fiscal table compiled for the EFF.

Revenue Administration

Egypt

A METAC mission reviewed the implementation of the value-added tax (VAT) and identified core administrative functions (registration, filing, payment, and compliance) and other areas, where METAC could provide further support. The mission took place six months after the introduction of the VAT, which was sufficient time for areas requiring further development to have become apparent.

Iraq

METAC organized an off-site mission in Jordan to advise the Iraqi Commission of Taxes on the establishment of a modern large taxpayers' office (LTO). The mission reviewed the existing practices for managing large taxpayers, and the current understanding within the Tax Department regarding the types of non-compliant behavior by large taxpayers and their relationship to compliance management strategy and activities.



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It also delivered workshops on the role, objectives, and functional design of an LTO, as well as a time-bound work plan to establish an LTO, including allocation of responsibilities, performance indicators, and resource requirements.

Statistics

Iraq

METAC conducted an off-site mission in Jordan, to continue its assistance to the Central Organization of Statistics and Information Technologies of Iraq (COSIT) in enhancing price statistics. The mission provided training to the COSIT staff on the weighting procedures in compiling the national Consumer Price Index (CPI), adopting appropriate indexes at the elementary and aggregate levels for both the CPI and Producer Price Index, treating missing prices, and introducing new and replacing the old products. It also agreed with the authorities on a time table for the implementation of the recommended improvements, taking into account the planned updates of the base year.

Lebanon

A METAC mission worked closely with the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and Banque du Liban (BDL) to assess and organize the source data for re-establishing the Rest of the World account, as a part of the integrated economic accounts for Lebanon. In particular, the mission addressed inconsistencies in reported data for trade in goods and services. The coordination of activities between the national accountants at CAS and the balance of payments compilers at the BDL, in the context of the mission, enabled the CAS to resume the compilation of important macro-economic aggregates for the national economy, such as the gross national income and gross national disposable income. These data have been published in March 2017.

Regional Workshops

Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool



METAC held a workshop on the recently launched Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) in Amman, Jordan during March 27-30, 2017. Twenty senior representatives of tax authorities and finance ministries from eight METAC countries (Afghanistan, Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan and West Bank and Gaza) attended the workshop. The workshop provided participants with an introduction to the TADAT process and undertook a detailed analysis of the internationally recognized good practices espoused in the TADAT methodology. It focused on four performance outcome areas: 'Integrity of the Registered Taxpayer Base', 'Supporting Voluntary Compliance', 'Timely Filing of Tax Declarations', and 'Timely Payment of Taxes'. Follow-up workshops will be organized in FY18, covering the remaining TADAT performance outcome areas. METAC will be providing future TA support for TADAT assessments throughout the region, in partnership with other development partners.

National Accounts Compilation Issues

METAC held a workshop on "National Accounts Compilation Issues" in Amman, Jordan during March 13-16, 2017. The workshop addressed specific issues and



challenges in compiling national accounts of participating countries. Twenty-nine participants from ten METAC countries plus Pakistan attended the workshop. The interactive workshop facilitated extensive discussions, and participants were given the opportunity to identify potential areas for future TA, including organization of regional task forces and working groups covering countries at similar level of capacity development and focusing on common specific topics.

Round table discussion on the "ICAAP as a Strategic Tool to Effectively Manage Risk and Capital"



METAC's advisor on banking regulation and supervision participated in a round table discussion on the "ICAAP as a Strategic Tool to Effectively Manage Risk and Capital", on March 07, 2017. The discussion took place during the one-day "Roundtable on Risk Management: Getting Prepared for a Better Future in Lebanon" organized by the International Finance Corporation and the Association of Banks in Lebanon with the participation of 26 senior representatives from a number of large and medium banks in Lebanon.



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METAC Coordinator Celebrates International Women’s Day



On the occasion of the International Women’s Day, METAC’s Center Coordinator delivered a speech at the “Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan” on women’s role in building strong public institutions and contributing to good governance, based on her own experience. The event highlighted the role that women can play in advancing public sector modernization and the need to provide them with opportunities for career progress.

TA Reports

The following TA reports were uploaded on METAC’s website during March 2017. Steering Committee members of countries and donors who have signed a confidentiality agreement with the IMF can access the reports @ www.imfmetac.org

	Egypt
Public Financial Management	Improving Fiscal Risk Management
	Iraq
Statistics	External Sector Statistics

METAC Planned Missions

METAC planned missions for April 2017 can be found @ www.imfmetac.org

Country	Mission	Resident advisor	ST expert	Date
Banking Supervision				
Afghanistan	Training on Stress Testing	–	Michael Lau	04/16-20
Egypt	Workshop on supervision of internal audit in banks	Ahmad El Radi	Gerald A Edwards Jr.	04/09-13
Iraq	TA on drafted regulations	Ahmad El Radi	Sherif Ashour Talaat Nasr	04/23-27
Lebanon	Workshop on consolidated supervision	Ahmad El Radi	Ian Tower Engin Akcakoca	04/25-28
Legal				
Sudan	Reform the 2003 Banking Business Act	–	Ralf Tutsch Adel Fadhel	04/21-30
Monetary Policy				
Tunisia	Assist with the development of a rating tool for Banque Centrale de Tunisie	–	Alain P Vendepoute Francesco Monterisi	03/28- 04/10
Public Financial Management				
Jordan	Public Investment Management Assessment	Xavier Rame	–	04/25- 05/09
Sudan	Medium Term Framework	–	Omneya Ramadan	04/02-06
Revenue Administration				
Afghanistan	Development of multi criteria risk profiles for customs	–	Maureen Tracey	04/23-27
Jordan	Enhanced risk management function in Tax Administration	Patrick De Mets	Rod Ettridge	04/23- 05/04
Sudan	Enhanced risk management function in customs	Patrick De Mets	Darryn Jenkins	04/16-27
West Bank and Gaza	Introducing risk management function	Patrick De Mets	Ron McGrath	04/30- 05/11
Statistics				
Lebanon	Property Price Statistics	–	Mick Silver	04/24-28
Sudan	Price Statistics	–	Muhannad Sammar	04/02-06
Sudan	National Accounts	–	Redha Benzarti	04/23-27



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IMF Online Courses

Available to government officials and, in some cases, to the general public through www.imf.org/institute-online and <https://www.edx.org/school/imfx>. Current and forthcoming courses include:

- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x)**
Language: Arabic, April 26, 2017-June 7, 2017 (6 Weeks)
Course conducted online
Apply online by April 19, 2017
- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 2: Program Design (FPP.2x)**
Language: English, May 3, 2017-June 21, 2017 (7 Weeks)
Course conducted online
Apply online by April 26, 2017
- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x)**
Language: English, May 10, 2017-June 21, 2017 (6 Weeks)
Course conducted online
Apply online by May 3, 2017
- **Macroeconomic Diagnostics (MDSx)**
Language: English, May 24, 2017-July 5, 2017 (6 Weeks)
Course conducted online
Apply online by May 17, 2017
- **Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSAx)**
Language: English, May 31, 2017-July 26, 2017 (6 Weeks)
Course conducted online
Apply online by May 24, 2017