



DONORS



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RECIPIENT COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN	EGYPT
IRAQ	JORDAN
LEBANON	LIBYA
SUDAN	SYRIA
WBG	YEMEN

Training Program on Securities Issuance in Ramallah

In response to a request from the Ministry of Finance (MOF) of the Palestinian Authority (PA), METAC conducted a training course in Ramallah, West Bank on Financial Instruments and Markets, Primary and Secondary Markets and Debt Management. The course was attended by officials from the Ministry of Finance, Palestinian Monetary Authority (PMA) and the Capital Market Authority (CMA). The training aimed at building capacity in debt management in anticipation of the PA's intention to issue government securities.

Palestinian Ministry of Finance Officials visit Lebanon

As part of its efforts to develop tax administration programs, and as a follow-up to the latest workshop on taxpayers' services, officials from the Palestinian Ministry of Finance visited Cairo and Lebanon from December 12 – 15, 2010 to benefit from the expertise of tax administrators in both countries with respect to implementing programs and best practices in the area of tax reforms. METAC assisted the Palestinian officials with the logistics in their visit to Beirut.

Libya – Public Financial Management (PFM) and Banking Supervision Missions

At the request of the Libyan authorities, an FAD/METAC mission visited Tripoli from November 21 – December 5, 2010 to review the public financial management system (budget preparation, budget execution and cash management, reporting and accounting as well as internal control and audit). The mission was headed by Mr. Marco Cangiano, Assistant Director in the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department. METAC was represented by Mr. Pierre Messali, PFM Resident Advisor, Ms. Manal Fouad and Mr. Michael Williams, short-term experts.

At the request of the Banking Supervision Department (BSD), a training course on Risk management was delivered at the Central Bank of Libya covering core principles for effective banking supervision, risk management and market risk. The topics discussed were designed to assist the CBL with the implementation of best practices and techniques to monitor and conduct a prudent oversight of banks.

International Transaction Reporting Systems in Syria

With the support of Mr. Jean Galand, METAC Statistics Advisor, a workshop on International Transactions Reporting System (ITRS) took place in Damascus from December 20 – 22, 2010. In Syria, as in many countries in the world, the backbone of the collection and compilation system for Balance of Payments statistics is ITRS operated by the central bank, whereby resident banks report cross-border transactions between residents and non-residents.

The Research and Statistics Department of the Central Bank of Syria (CBS) has recently introduced important changes to its ITRS to improve the quality and timeliness of the reporting. With the assistance of METAC, new report forms were developed. With this update, it is expected that the data will be available to the CBS with shorter lags, and will better reflect the reality of cross-border transactions.

METAC & IMF Resident Representative Office Celebrating the Holidays



After a very busy year, it was time for the IMF family in Beirut to take some time off away from the office and celebrate the holiday season. The staff of METAC and the resident representative office converged to the cafeteria at the roof top of the World Bank/IMF building for this occasion. The weather was very cooperative and the food was superior. With holiday tunes in the background, gifts were exchanged and every one had a blast.

METAC staff would like to wish everyone happy holidays and a prosperous new year.

