



DONORS:
EC
EIB
FRANCE
JAPAN
KUWAIT
OMAN



RECIPIENT COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN	EGYPT
IRAQ	JORDAN
LEBANON	LIBYA
SUDAN	SYRIA
WBG	YEMEN

METAC Information Meeting to Donors and Recipient Countries

METAC held an Information Meeting to Donors and Recipient Countries on April 13, 2010 at its premises, in the context of starting its Phase III (May 2010-April 2015). The meeting aimed to brief participants on METAC's activities in the region, METAC's achievements, and to lay out METAC's strategy for the next five years. The meeting was attended by some twenty participants from both recipient and donor countries and chaired by H.E. Raya Haffar, the Minister of Finance of Lebanon.

Ms. Haffar stated that Lebanon is committed to METAC, a commitment that has never wavered even under the most dire of circumstances. She "urged" donors to increase their contributions to METAC substantially and reiterated Lebanon's commitment to pay \$1 million a year in addition to in kind contribution estimated at \$300,000. She added that the presence of METAC serves Lebanon and the region in a flexible and cost effective way.



Mr. Saade Chami, METAC Coordinator, made a presentation on METAC's activities, achievements and the way forward.

There were questions on coordination with other TA providers, the way METAC operates, successes and recipient countries' views on the work of METAC, among others.

A number of participants expressed their appreciation for the work done by METAC and their willingness to discuss with their respective authorities possible contribution to METAC, knowing that the needed budget for the next five years is estimated at around \$33 million. Of this budget, Lebanon as the host country and IMF would cover \$6.5 million; the remaining \$26.5 million to be covered by donors' contribution.

April Events and Missions

CREDAF Annual Workshop on "Risk-based Audit Management"



METAC participated in the annual workshop of the Centre des Rencontres et d'Etudes des Dirigeants des Administrations Fiscales (CREDAF) on "Risk-based Audit Management" that took place in Dakar, Senegal, from April 19 to 22, 2010.

The workshop was a great opportunity to share experiences, best practices and challenges in the design and implementation of a modern risk-based audit scheme with focus on risk analysis and the roles and responsibilities of the audit functions.

METAC sponsored participants from: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

Headquarters Diagnostic Mission on Tax Administration in Lebanon

A mission from the Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) visited Beirut to review tax administration. The mission headed by Thomas Story from FAD included Rick Matthews as FAD expert and it was assisted by METAC's resident revenue administration advisor – Manal Assir, and by Mr. Bill Crandall, METAC short term expert. The mission looked at Lebanon's progress towards modernizing its administration as well as the organization, structures, and management approaches in Lebanon's complex tax administration. It also looked at such important issues as taxpayer segmentation, and critical operations such as collection enforcement and the broad strategies applied in Lebanon to improve tax compliance.

