



AFGHANISTAN	LIBYA
EGYPT	SUDAN
IRAQ	SYRIA
JORDAN	WBG
LEBANON	YEMEN

Regional Workshop on Basel III



METAC held a regional workshop on “Basel III: Practical Aspects and Implementation” in Lebanon from August 12 till 14, 2014. The workshop was led by Mr. Ahmad El Radi, METAC

banking supervision advisor, and Mr. Rabih Nehme, METAC short-term expert. The workshop was attended by 20 participants from 10 METAC and non-METAC countries and included directors and deputy directors of supervision departments, and senior bank examiners.

During the workshop, participants had the opportunity to engage in interactive, hands-on training on how countries in the MENA region could coordinate implementation and practices of Basel III standards on banking supervision among their various supervisory authorities. It also focused on improving the ability of banks’ examiners and supervisors to better evaluate their institutions’ capital adequacy in relation to inherent risks and assess the adequacy of their liquidity measures.

The workshop provided a good setting for exchanging views, sharing experiences and developing networks for cross-border collaboration on banking supervision. Case studies about the calculation of capital adequacy ratio under Basel III and the measurement of liquidity according to the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) standard were also presented and discussed. A selected number of participants presented their countries’ experiences in Basel III implementation and highlighted the measures taken by their respective supervisory authorities to implement the measurement of the LCR.

Regional Workshop on Tax-Customs Interaction



METAC held a workshop on “Tax-Customs Interaction” in Lebanon from August 26 till 28, 2014. The workshop was attended by senior representatives of both tax and customs authorities from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In total, 32 delegates from 10 countries attended the workshop. The countries represented included: Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen. The workshop was led by Mr. Charles Jenkins, METAC revenue administration advisor and Mr. Rod Ettridge, METAC short-term expert.

The workshop examined opportunities and obstacles related to achieving greater interaction and cooperation between tax and customs administrations. Presentations and discussions over the three days were built around three broad topic areas: the first day dealt with legal and institutional issues; the second addressed systems issues and featured joint presentations from the Software and Solutions Company SAP and Deloitte; and the third focused on practical issues of organization and management.

A highly participative approach was adopted, based on breakout group discussions and presentations in plenary. Delegates were encouraged to share their experiences and ideas, with a view to establishing a basis for continued knowledge sharing throughout the region.

In a final wrap-up session, participants were given the opportunity to identify potential areas for future METAC technical assistance support.

METAC Missions during August 2014

In **Sudan**, four missions were held on: (i) National Accounts conducted by Mr. Artashes Shaboyan, METAC short-term expert from August 10 till 21; (ii) Price Statistics conducted by Mr. Niall O’Hanlon, METAC short-term expert from August 10 till 14; (iii) External Statistics conducted by Mr. Malik Bani Hani, METAC statistics advisor, from August 17 till 28; and (iv) introducing a Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF) conducted by Mr. Jacques Charaoui, METAC public financial management (PFM) advisor, and Mr. Amgad Hegazy, IMF Economist, from August 11 till 21.

In **Egypt**, a mission to propose an IT PFM reform action plan, from August 8 till 25, conducted by Mr. Jacques Charaoui, METAC PFM advisor, and Mr. Farooq Khan, METAC short-term expert.

In **Lebanon**, a mission to support the Large Taxpayers Office and Value Added Tax Department in Sector Specific Audit conducted by Mr. Charles Jenkins, METAC revenue administration advisor, and Mr. Rod Ettridge, METAC short-term expert, from August 11 till 22.

In **Jordan**, a mission to develop and implement an Early Warning System for the banking sector, conducted by Mr. Ahmad El Radi, METAC banking supervision advisor, and Mr. Rebel Cole, METAC short-term expert, from August 24 till 28.

