



MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:

EUROPEAN UNION | FRANCE | GERMANY | NETHERLANDS | SAUDI ARABIA | SWITZERLAND

MEMBERS:

AFGHANISTAN | ALGERIA | DJIBOUTI | EGYPT | IRAQ | JORDAN | LEBANON | LIBYA | MOROCCO | SUDAN | SYRIA | TUNISIA | WEST BANK AND GAZA | YEMEN

METAC Steering Committee Meeting | June 3, 2025

Event Summary



On June 3, 2024, METAC's Steering Committee convened in Cairo, Egypt, to evaluate the Center's capacity development (CD) activities in the past fiscal year (FY25, May 2024 to April 2025) and outline the workplan for the upcoming period. The event brought together representatives from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), member countries, METAC development partners, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, France, and the European Union, and Japan (JICA) and OECD as observers.

Despite a challenging regional environment marked by fragility and conflict, METAC continued to expand its CD services to member countries in FY25. Total CD delivery increased by 10 percent compared to the previous year, with fragile and conflict-affected member states receiving the majority of support.

METAC introduced a new workstreams on Public Debt Management in FY25 and will establish a Governance and Anti-Corruption workstream and a cross-cutting work program on digitalization in FY26. The reengagement with Syria is another priority for the coming year, requiring close coordination with development partners and the new Syrian authorities.



The meeting was chaired by H.E. Minister of Finance of Lebanon Yassine Jaber. He commended METAC's impactful work and achievements in the region, expressed Lebanon's pride in hosting METAC, and recognized the role of Lebanese experts as regional advisors, showcasing Lebanon's human capital as its most valuable assets.

H.E. Minister of Finance of Egypt Ahmed Kouchouk expressed appreciation to donor partners and contributing member countries for their ongoing support and highlighted METAC as the region's trusted advisor on economic institution building.

Zeine Zeidane, Deputy Director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department, acknowledged the challenging times marked by global uncertainty. He emphasized the IMF's commitment to increasing CD to the MENA region, especially fragile and conflict-affected states, and noted that METAC has doubled its CD delivery over the past four years.

Representatives from member countries and development partners praised METAC for its role in strengthening the capacity of macroeconomic institutions in the region.

METAC Director Holger Floerkemeier expressed his gratitude to development partners for their longstanding support and collaboration, as well as to member countries for their strong ownership and engagement with the Center. At the conclusion of the meeting, he introduced Monique Newiak as his successor, who will assume the role of METAC Director in September 2025.