



National Workshop

Developing Debt Optimization Strategies to Enhance Fiscal Space in Mauritania

Nouakchott, Mauritania, 19-20 June 2023

AGENDA

Day 1 – 19 June 2023	
8:30–9:00am	REGISTRATION
9:00–9:15am	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader of the Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA • Ms. Roula Katergi, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD • Mr. Diallo Amadou Abdoulaye, Secretary General, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania
9:15–10:30am	<p>Item 1: Public debt challenges in Mauritania and meeting expectations</p> <p><i>The Session will provide an overview of public debt situation in Mauritania, macroeconomic situation, debt and financing challenges and government's strategy to address debt sustainability.</i></p> <p><i>The session will also provide an overview of the expectations from this workshop.</i></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader of the Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Niang Idrissa, Director of External Debt Department, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania • Mr. Mohamed Salem Nany, Director General of Financing and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Promotion of Productive Sectors, Mauritania • Ms. Lemina Sidi Baba, Director General of Studies and Monetary Stability, Central Bank of Mauritania • Mr. Yahya Sadvi H'meyti, Director General of the Treasury and Public Accounting, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania • Mr. Fall Khayar, Director General of Budget, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania • Mr. Cheikhna Beddad, Director General of Development Strategies and Policies, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Promotion of Productive Sectors, Mauritania • Mr. Niranjan Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA <p>Open Discussion</p>
10:30–11:00am	BREAK
11:00–12:30pm	Item II: Debt data quality in Mauritania

	<p><i>The session will focus on debt data compilation and reporting and methodology of debt data quality assessment for debt sustainability analysis. The methodology to assess debt data quality will be presented together with the tool for identifying deficiencies in debt database and the correction measures to be adopted. Main challenges and needs for improvement in data quality will be discussed as well taking into consideration governance and institutional arrangements for debt management in the country.</i></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Mr. Niang Idrissa, Director of External Debt Department, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Roula Katergi, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD <p>Open Discussion</p>
12:30-2:00pm	<p>Item III: Debt structure of Mauritania</p> <p><i>The session will discuss the overall debt structure of Mauritania, profile of external debt, creditors, different debt instruments, debt vulnerabilities and challenges of medium-term debt sustainability. The session will also highlight the relationship between debt management and macroeconomic policies, including links to fiscal and monetary policy. The role of international support for debt service suspension and its impact on fiscal space will also be assessed.</i></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Mr. Niang Idrissa, Director of External Debt Department, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Niranjan Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA <p>Open Discussion</p>
2:00pm	LUNCH
Day 2 - 20 June 2023	
9:00-10:30am	<p>Item IV: Options for debt optimization</p> <p><i>This session will focus on techniques for debt optimization, medium term debt stabilization, and debt swap options with focus on alternative policy options for reducing costs and risks of debt finance. The session will present means of measuring cost and risk, as well as the use of risk indicators, including contingent debt risks. Initial results of debt optimization along with financing needs and the national strategy in the medium term will be discussed. Examples of different countries will be discussed as well.</i></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Mr. Saad Bouh Ould Regad, Technical Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Niranjan Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA

	Open Discussion
10:30-11:45am	<p>Item V: Connecting DMFAS to debt optimization analysis</p> <p><i>The session will focus on debt data in DMFAS and its linkage with analysis, reporting and undertaking debt optimization strategies. Capacity development needs will be discussed.</i></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader of the Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Niranjana Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA • Ms. Roula Katergi, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD • Mr. Youssouf Haroune, Head of Data Section, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania <p>Open discussion</p>
11:45-12:00pm	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mohamed El Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, Leader of the Shared Economic Prosperity Cluster, ESCWA • Mr. Diallo Amadou Abdoulaye, Secretary General, Ministry of Finance, Mauritania