
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

**Regional Training workshop on ESCWA System for Measuring, Monitoring and Evaluating
Regional Integration Performance**

15-16 December 2021

Amman, Jordan

INFORMATION NOTE

I. BACKGROUND

In a rapidly evolving trade landscape, deepening regional integration is seen as a priority strategy by many developing nations, especially for the Arab countries. This is particularly critical to boost intra-regional trade, which is very low as compared to the rest regions across the world and support Arab countries in their much-needed structural transformation efforts. While the share of intra-regional trade is considerably higher in the Asian and European regions, it is concentrated and driven by only few economies in the Arab region making deepening and broadening of economic cooperation and integration paramount for sustainable development.

Several integration frameworks have been set-up or are currently being envisaged in the Arab region. However, to date progress in regional integration has been uneven. Therefore, there is a need to assist Member States and regional organizations within the Arab region to better assess and monitor performance on different aspects of integration and providing incentives and guidance to them for further progress.

This workshop is a capacity building activity which is meant to transfer knowledge to member states' and evaluate potential needs for instruments allowing follow-up and evaluation of existing trade agreements and helping them to negotiate new trade agreements that go far beyond trade in goods to include trade in services, investment and intellectual property rights, and so forth. It will enable MSs to use ESCWA economic integration monitoring and evaluation system to develop evidence-based economic integration strategies, scenario analyses and impact studies.

The training workshop is organized in the context of a UN Development Account project, which is being implemented in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

II. OBJECTIVE

This workshop aims to introduce member states with ESCWA composite indexes and scoreboards system for Arab economic integration performances monitoring and evaluation. Ongoing amendments to the system and way forwards will be presented during the meeting as well as other interactive tools recently developed by ESCWA. The workshop aims to discuss the

best ways to using these tools in the development of evidence-based integration scenario and trade policies, the final goal being to help Member States unlock their extra- and intra-Arab economic integration potential to support economic and human development.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The meeting will bring together representatives and experts from the Ministries of Trade, and from the Regional and sub-regional organizations, who deals with trade negotiation and monitor the costs and benefits of trade agreements.

All participants are kindly asked to confirm their participation by completing the registration form and sending it back to Roula Milan, milan@un.org by 17 November 2021.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP

The meeting will be held on **15-16 December 2021 in Amman, Jordan**. The meeting will be conducted in English. Interpretation will be provided.

The venue of the Workshop is **Kempinski Hotel**. Therefore, ESCWA suggests that participants book their accommodation at the Kempinski in Amman, or in other hotels nearby. The final decision is for the participants, who are also kindly invited to organize transport to and from the airport directly with their respective hotel.

Kempinski Hotel has provided a preferential room rates of **USD 96**, per night for single room including breakfast and all taxes. Internet connection is also available at the hotel free of charge. For further information please contact **Mr. Yousef Maqableh** email: yousef.maqableh@kempinski.com; Tel: 00962-7-97282752.

V. LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Participants are required to secure **their own visa** for entry to Amman. Participants should check with the Embassy of Jordan in their country of residence to see if a visa is necessary and to secure their visa prior to departure if needed. Related information is also available on the World Travel Guide via the following link: <http://www.worldtravelguide.net>.

Air travel reservations and ticketing for sponsored participants will be arranged by **ESCWA**. Roundtrip tickets will be issued in economy class on the most economic route in accordance with United Nations travel rules and regulations.

Sponsored participants will receive a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) **\$208** per night, as per the United Nations travel rules and regulations, for up to three nights to cover the cost of their hotel, meals and incidental expenses during the meeting. A fixed terminal expenses allowance (US\$ 188) will also be provided to cover airport transfers.

Sponsored participants are kindly requested to present the following documents to the ESCWA representative at the registration desk on the day of the meeting: **original passport, copy of airline ticket and original boarding pass**. Review of these documents is necessary to allow for the issuance of DSA.

VI. INFORMATION RELATED TO COVID-19

All passengers must hold **negative PCR** test not exceeding **72 hours** prior date of travel. All passengers will undergo another PCR test upon arrival at Amman on passengers' cost at 28 JOD/ 45 USD.

All passengers are mandatory required to register online through this [link](https://www.gateway2jordan.gov.jo/form/), <https://www.gateway2jordan.gov.jo/form/> in order to pay for PCR test that will done to them upon arrival at Amman airport to receive QR and confirmation email and must be presented upon check in BEY, the PCR test will be done for the holders of these documents upon arrival at Amman airport. Passengers who cannot pay online can pay at Beirut airport or MEA offices and get receipt (EMD).

All passengers must fill [disclaimer form](https://meablob.blob.core.windows.net/files/Library/Assets/Gallery/pdfs/Declaration%20Form%20Jordan.pdf) on <https://meablob.blob.core.windows.net/files/Library/Assets/Gallery/pdfs/Declaration%20Form%20Jordan.pdf>.

All non- Jordanians passengers must have Medical insurance to cover COVID-19 treatment.

Diplomats and employees of regional and international organizations and their dependents and family members holding special or/and regular passports residing in Jordan have special QR code and are exempted from: PCR test before departure and PCR test upon arrival.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondences related to the substances should be addressed to:

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All correspondences related to the administrative arrangements should be addressed to:

Ms. Roula Milan
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