

Provisional Agenda

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
Expert Group Meeting
Financing for Sustainable Development~Illicit Financial Flows & Trade Misinvoicing
Beirut, 8-9 May 2017

Provisional Agenda

(Updates furnished through the designated web page on ESCWA web site)

Monday, 8 May 2017

9:30-10:00 **Registration-** *UN House, Committee Room–II.*

Kindly be advised that photographic identification is needed to access the building.

Sponsored participants are kindly requested to bring their passports, airline ticket stubs and receipts to the meeting.

10:00-10:30 **Opening Statements and Introductory Remarks**

- Mr. Samir Hammoud, Chairman of the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL)

- Mr. Mohamed El-Hacene, Director, Economic Development and Integration Division (EDID), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA)

Tour de Table

- Review of the Agenda, Mr. Hisham Taha, Economic Advisor, EDID, UN ESCWA

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

8 May 2017 (continued)

11:00-12:30 **Session 1: Regional Perspectives: Illicit Financial flows & Trade Misinvoicing**

Moderator: *Mr. Paul Cochrane, Director of Media, Journalist and Co-Founder, Triangle Consultants*

Speakers:

- Illicit Financial Flows from Africa: The Economic Commission for Africa Perspective, Mr. Gamal Ibrahim, Chief, Finance and Private Sector, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

- Overview of Illicit Capital Outflows in the Arab Region, Mr. Khaled Hussein, Chief Forecasting Section, Macroeconomic Policy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

- Illicit Financial Flows: Case Study of Lebanon, Mr. Jassem Ajaka, Lebanese University, Beirut, Lebanon

Discussion

12:30-13:30 **Session 2: Legal Definitions and Parameters of Illicit financial Flows**

Moderator: *Mr. Gamal Ibrahim, ECA*

Speakers:

- Combating Illicit Financial Flows as a Means to Economic Growth: Legal Challenges and Suggested Regulatory Mechanisms to Tackle Illicit Financial Flows, Mr. Ali Zbeeb, President, Development Association for Nurturing Arab Leadership and Innovation (DANALI)

- The Impact of Compliance on Illicit Financial Flows, Mr. Paul Cochrane, Director of Media, Journalist and Co-Founder, Triangle Consultants

Discussion

13:30-14:30 **Lunch Break- Cafeteria (ESCWA Cafeteria-Ground Floor)**

14:30-15:15 **Session 3: Illicit Financial Flows & Trade Misinvoicing in the Arab Region**

Moderator: *Mr. Jassem Ajaka, Professor at the Lebanese University*

Speakers:

- Report on Illicit Financial Flows and Trade Misinvoicing in the Arab Region: Background, Objectives and Methodology, Mr. Joseph Curry Spanjers, Senior Economist, Global Financial Integrity (GFI), Washington D.C., USA

15:15-15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-16:30 Discussion

End of Day 1

Tuesday, 9 May 2017

09:30-11:30 **Session 4: Illicit Financial Flows and Trade Misinvoicing in the Arab Region**

Moderator: *Mr. Hisham Taha, Economic Advisor EDID, UN ESCWA*

Speaker:

- Outcomes of Report on Illicit Financial Flows and Trade Misinvoicing in the Arab Region, Mr. Joseph Curry Spanjers, Economist, Global Financial Integrity, Washington D.C., USA

Discussion

11:30-12:00 Coffee Break

12:00-13:00 **Session 5: The Arab Financing for Development Score Card**

Moderator: *Mr. Khaled Hussein, UN ECA*

Speakers:

- Finance in Reverse: The Arab Score Card, Mr. Hisham Taha, UN ESCWA and Ms. Angelic Salha, Expert, EDID, UN ESCWA

Discussion

13:00-13:30 **Session 6: Recommendations and Future Steps**

Moderator: *Mr. Hisham Taha, ESCWA*

13:30 ***Closing Remarks***
