



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

14th Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for the Arab States
Beirut, 11-12 November 2010

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Thursday 11 November 2010

Opening – B1 Main Hall Conference Room		Speakers
08.30	Registration	MC Ms Ahed Sboul (ESCWA)
09.00	Welcome by ESCWA's Executive Secretary	Dr Rima Khalaf
09.10	Speech by LAS Assistant Secretary-General for Social Affairs	Dr Sima Bahous
09.20	Speech by Chair – Deputy Secretary-General	Dr Asha-Rose Migiro
09.35	Welcome by Prime Minister of Lebanon	H.E. Mr Saad Al-Hariri
	Administrative / Housekeeping issues	
09.50	Coffee Break – Mezzanine Floor (MZ)	
Session 1 – Progress Status & Next Steps for Thematic Working Groups		
10.05	Introduction by Chair	Mr Youssef Nusseir (ESCWA)
10.05	1. Climate Change: Key Challenges & Way Forward	Mr Habib El Habr (UNEP)
10.25	2. Food Security: Key Challenges & Way Forward	Ms Fatima Hachem (FAO)
10.45	3. UNDG Cluster on Climate Change/Food Security Nexus	Mr Zlatan Milisic (WFP)
11.05	4. MDGs: Way Forward	Mr Tarik Alami (ESCWA)
	<i>Purpose: To build coherence among stakeholders for synergies and complementarities of agencies working in thematic areas</i>	
12.30	Lunch	
Session 2 – Report on Key Activities from Previous Meeting		
1.30	Introduction by Chair	Minister Ziad Baroud (Lebanon) or Mr Bakhtiar Amin (Iraq)
1.35	1. Briefing/Report of Civil Society Advisory Group initiative, and CSO Perspective on Poverty Reduction Youth & Poverty Reduction	Mr Ziad Abdel Samad – Chair CSAG
	<i>Purpose: Report on progress of the establishment of the Civil Society Advisory Group and provide a perspective of CSOs on youth</i>	
1.50	2. Enhancing Regional Statistical Coordination ESCWA/ LAS – Way Forward on LAS/ESCWA Plan of Action	Mr Juraj Riecan (ESCWA) & Mrs Hoda Abo Al-Eil (LAS)
2.10	Discussion	
	<i>Purpose: Report on progress of coordination of statistics activities in the region and opportunities for enhancement.</i>	
3.00	Coffee Break	

Session 3- Influencing the Regional and Global Policy Agenda

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| 3.15 | Intro by Chair | Mr Tarik Alami (ESCWA) |
| 3.25 | Presentation - HLCP Discussions (via Videolink to Washington DC) | Mr Elliot Harris Vice Chair HLCP |
| 3.45 | Presentation - Arab Economic & Social Summit | |
| 4.00 | Discussion | Dr Sima Bahous (LAS) |
| | <i>Purpose: Identify opportunities for engaging a regional strategic vision to key regional fora and global UN policy making organs for the region</i> | |
| 4.45 | Wrap Up of Day 1 & Group Photo with DSG | |
| 6.00 | Launch of UNRISD Poverty Report at Regional Level – Cocktail | |

Friday 12 November 2010

Session 4 - Update on Key Regional Youth Programmes by RCM Members

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| 09.00 | Introduction By Chair – <i>Brief on IYY</i> | Chair: Nicola Shepherd (DESA) |
| 09.10 | 1. Presentation: "Emerging issues affecting and defining youth in the Arab world" | Mr Rami Khoury (AUB) |
| 09.35 | 2. Presentation by UNDG Regional Youth Strategy – Priorities, Progress, and Challenges | Ms Shahida Azfar– (UNICEF) |
| 09.50 | 3. Presentation on LAS Programmes on Youth | Mr Khaled Louhichi – (LAS) |
| 10.10 | Discussion | |
| | <i>Purpose: Overview of challenges facing youth in the region, and:</i> | |
| | 1. Progress on key activities within region shared with all members | |
| | 2. Identify potential gaps/opportunities to carry over to Session 5 | |

10.40 Coffee Break

Session 5 - Perspectives of Regional Youth Challenge

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| 10.50 | 1. A Public Perspective - Youth Development in the Arab States | Mr Bakhtiar Amin (Iraq) |
| | 2. A Youth Perspective - Youth Development in the Arab States | Omar Shami (Lebanon) |
| | Discussion | Ahmad Al Hindawy (Jordan) |
| | <i>Purpose: Provide a perspective of the youth development challenge as seen by member states, youth and the private sector. Ground set for discussion for Panel Discussion for reviewing gaps in existing UN activities on youth development</i> | |
| | | Facilitator: Ms Fatiha Serour (UNOPS) |

Session 6 - Identifying Key Gaps & Challenges for Regional Youth Development

11.50

Chair: Mr Tarek Nabulsi (LAS)

Purpose: Identify challenges and gaps in the region and provide policy options for member countries

Followed By Plenary Discussion

High Level Panel

1. **Zafiris Tzannatos** (ILO)
2. **Ian Pool** (ESCWA)
3. **Mr Eric Mottu** (IMF)
4. **Mr Mohammad Jamal Al-Saati** (IsDB)
5. **Ms Haneen Sayed** (World Bank)

1.30

Coffee Break

1.40

Wrap Up – Concluding Statement

2.40

Lunch