

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/SDD/2011/WG.7/L.2
7 September 2011
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Expert Group Meeting on Social Security in Western Asia
Accessibility and Sustainability
Beirut, 8-9 September 2011

PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK**Thursday, 8 September 2011**

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 Opening and Introduction
ESCWA

9:15- 10:45 Session 1: Financial Sustainability

Moderator: Mr. Samir MAKDISI, *Professor Emeritus, Senior Fellow at the Institute of Financial Economics, American University of Beirut, Lebanon*

Financial Sustainability of the Social Protection Systems in ESCWA Countries
Mr. Kamal HAMDAN, *Executive Director, Consultation and Research Institute,* Lebanon

Social Expenditures Database: OECD Experience
Mr. Maxime LADAIQUE, *Manager Statistical Resources, Social Policy Division,* OECD,
France

Discussion

10:45-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Session 2: Universal and Targeted Approaches

Moderator: Mr. Nadim KHOURI, *Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCWA*

Levels of Provision of Social Security in ESCWA Countries
Ms. Heba EL LAITHY, *Professor & Head of Department of Statistics, Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, Cairo University, Egypt*

Targeted approaches to Social Protection: Lessons learned from the World Bank

Ms. Haneen SAYED, Human Development Coordinator, The World Bank, Beirut Office, Lebanon

Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Session 3: The Social Protection Floor

Moderator: *Ms. Simona MARINESCU, Senior Economist, Programme Director for Economic Reforms, UNDP Iraq, Amman Office, Jordan*

Successful Social Protection Floors – Financing and lessons learned

Ms. Ursula KULKE, Senior Regional Social Security Specialist, Regional Office for Arab States, ILO, Beirut, Lebanon

Social Protection Costing Tool: Costing of Social Protection measures

Mr. Amjad RABI, Social Policy Officer, UNICEF

National Data on Populations at Risk in ESCWA countries

Mr. Marwan KHAWAJA, Chief, Social Statistics Section, Statistics Division, ESCWA

Discussion

Friday, 9 September 2011

9:00-10:30 Session 4: National Experiences

Moderator: *Mr. Monzer MOURAD, Actuary, Chief of Studies and Research Office, The Public Institution for Social Security, Kuwait*

9:00-9:30 Challenges and Lessons Learned from the Extension of Social Security: Asia-Pacific Perspective

Mr. Mukul ASHER, Professor of Public Policy, Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore

9:30-10:00 Outreach to All: Strategy to Extending Social Security Coverage

Mr. Maen NSOUR, Deputy Chairman/ Director General, Social Security Corporation, Jordan

10:00-10:30 Unified Social Security Schemes – Lessons learned from GCC

Mr. Abdulaziz AL HABDAN, Director General, Planning and Development Department, General Organization for Social Insurance, Saudi Arabia

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:15 Session 4: National Experiences (cont'd)

10:45-11:15 Unemployment Insurance System in Bahrain – Challenges and Lessons Learned

Ms. Najwa ABUHASSAN, Head of Registration and Evaluation Section, Directorate of Unemployment Insurance, Ministry of Labor, Bahrain

11:15-11:45 Safety Nets and Unemployment Support Schemes - Challenges and Lessons Learned from Iraq

Mr. Riyadh MOHAMMAD ALI, Director General, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Iraq

11:45-12:15 Reform of Pension Schemes – Lessons Learned from Morocco

Ms. Najat EL MEKKAOUI, Professor, Paris Dauphine University, France

12:15-13:15 Session 5: Roundtable: Extending the Coverage of Social Security in ESCWA Countries

Moderator: *Mr. Frederico NETO, Director, Social Development Division, ESCWA*

13:15-13:30 Closing Remarks