

Economic Development and Social Dialogue-Youth National Roundtable Meeting 30.06.2021 Agenda

9:00 – 9:30	Registration- online setting
9:30-10:15	Welcome and opening
10:15-10:25	Online setting-break
10:25-11:40	<p>Session 1: Highlights on the new Agenda for the Mediterranean and the Economic and Investment Plan for the Southern Neighborhood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduced and moderated by: Ziad Abdel Samad (15 min)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Presentation by the Researcher- Dr. Mohamed Said Saadi (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does the new Agenda for the Mediterranean approach the issue of economic development and trade and investment policies applied to SMCs? Does the approach based on the concept of "economic resilience" meet the imperatives of economic and social transformation demanded by the populations of SMCs? What changes should be made to the Agenda so that it is in tune with the aspirations of the peoples of the South Mediterranean? Are the improvements possible?</i> • <i>What are the priorities of the trade and investment policies and the Lessons learnt from the Free Trade Agreements (FTA) and the negotiations of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTAs)? What are the risks? What changes should be introduced in this project to make it acceptable to SMCs?</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Presentation of the results of the 2020 DG TRADE Evaluation of FTA in the Southern Neighborhood (EU DEL) (15 Min)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open discussion and exchange among participants and with the EU Delegation (35 min)</p>
11:40-11:50	Coffee break
11:50-12:50	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2: Highlights on the Social Protection</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduced and moderated by: Nasser Yassin (10 min)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Presentation of the research by May Makki (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are the concerns on the 3RF framework, particularly for the role and accountability of private sector and ensuring development effectiveness principles? What role can EU play in this regard?</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be the key components of social assistance programmes? What role can the EU partnership play towards achieving universal social protection, rather than targeted cash/social safety programmes? • What role will the civil society play in the new Agenda implementation and for the Economic and Investment Plan? Where do we stand on the implementation of the EU-Lebanon Roadmap for CSO engagement? What should be changed? • For the economic and social development, what are the priority areas ahead? How can the EU partnership address inequalities in health and education? <p>Presentation of the current Social Protection programme funded by the EU in Lebanon (10 min) – EU Del Staff</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open discussion and exchange with the EU Delegation (30 min)</p>
12:50-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-14:50	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 3: Youth, women and the marginalized groups</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduced and moderated by: Nathalie Mehdi (10 min) Presentation of the research by Badre Abdeslam (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the new Agenda for the Mediterranean (AM) recognize the “unregistered” youth representative bodies and civil society actors in Lebanon equally as is the case with their registered counterparts? If so, what place does the new Agenda allocate for them in terms of access to programs, funds and policy developments? If not, does the agenda foresee any alternatives for inclusion of these officially unrecognized organizations? • What priorities do youth representative bodies and civil society actors in Lebanon should set for youth, women & marginalized groups in lights of the lesson learned from the COVID-19 pandemic? • What role can a youth dialogue-space mechanism play in facilitating the work and productivity of youth representative bodies and civil society actors? What challenges do youth representative bodies and civil society actors foresee in the establishment of such a mechanism? And what the possible/proposed alternatives to overcome those potential challenges? <p>Presentation of the current programmes in Youth/Women/Marginalized groups funded by the EU in Lebanon (10 min) – EEU Del Staff</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open discussion and exchange with the EU Delegation (30 min)</p>
14:50-15:00	Coffee break
15:00-15:30	Presentation of the set of recommendations and final remarks

