



EXIT REPORT

To: Timothy Buehrer, Component Lead
Cc: Richard Laliberte, COP, David Wall, DCOP, and Kevin Haupt, PMO Advisor
From: Rachid Benjelloun
Component: A – Trade environment
Date: September 23, 2007
Subject: Dr. Ahmed Ali Exit Report for the Period of May 28 – June 12

Accomplishments

- Facilitated workshop in Alexandria to merge the Trade Agreements and Foreign Trade Sectors (Ministry of Trade and Industry)
- Participants in workshop developed three possible structures for the merged sector along with key functions of each central department

Issues

With the retirement of the head of FTS and the merging of the trade policy and trade negotiations functions, the merger idea comes at a good time. The workshop was an opportunity for key sector leaders to think again about the functions that the two sectors perform and ones that needed to be re-considered.

In addition to the two heads of sectors key managers from each sector attended and were active participants in the debate. After presentations from TAPRII staff TAS and FTS staff debated key issues of overlap and three working groups came up with three possible structures of the merged sector.

Counterpart Contacts

- Abdel-Rahman Fawzy, First Undersecretary, Trade Agreements and Foreign Trade Sectors
- Sayed Abol Komsan, Adviser to the Minister of Trade and Industry (and previous head of FTS)

Documents Delivered

The consultant delivered a consultancy report (in Arabic) summarizing the workshop proceedings. TAPRII staff Tim Buehrer and Rachid Benjelloun delivered presentations on trade policy formulation mechanisms and trade policy consultative mechanisms in other countries, respectively.

Next Steps

Mr. Abdel-Rahman Fawzy has been holding discussions with a small group of TAS and TAPRII staff to finalize the structure and main functions of the merged sector. The group will then outline central departments and general departments and their functions and will address staffing issues.