**Summary of the work of the 10th**  **session of the Strategic Orientation Council,**  **held on January 26, 2021**

The Strategic Orientation Council (COS) of the MCA-Morocco Agency held its tenth session on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 10 a.m., under the chairmanship of Mr. Mohamed Benchaâboun, Minister of Economy, Finance and Administrative Reform.

The agenda for the session was as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of the9th session of the Strategic Orientation Council (COS) of the MCA-Morocco Agency, held on October 14, 2020;
2. Presentation of the of the state of play of the Compact implementation since the9th session of the COS;
3. Approval of the report of the results of the Compact program audit;
4. Approval of amendments to the MCA-Morocco Agency's Audit Plan;
5. Approval of the partial reallocation of credits for certain components of the Compact projects;
6. Approval of 14 partnership agreements concluded by the MCA-Morocco Agency within the framework of the implementation of the Compact;
7. Approval of the updated of the Agency Procurement Program (PP);
8. Approval of amendments to contracts aimed at increasing the duration and/or amount of the contract by more than 50%;
9. Approval of draft contracts whose amount exceeds by more than 25% the initial estimate as approved in the PP;
10. Presentation of the list of purchases made under the "Shopping" simplified procedure since the9th session of the COS ;
11. Presentation of changes in the Agency's staff and its organizational structure;
12. Draft resolutions.

At the opening of the session, the COS Chair, Mr. Mohamed Benchaâboun, welcomed the regularity of the holding of the COS sessions and the evolution of the indicators concerning the progress of the implementation of the Compact projects, in line with the forecasts presented to the COS at its 9th session. He also called on the Agency to stay the course.

Mr. Saaïd Amzazi, Minister of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, Government Spokesperson, highlighted the innovative nature of the "Integrated Establishment Project" which is a model to promote, and welcomed the commitment of the teams for the success of the Project.

For his part, the Resident Director of Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) in Morocco, Mr. Richard Gaynor, stressed that the last quarter was rich in events and achievements and congratulated the Agency and the various stakeholders. He also informed the COS of the congress' approval of a provision allowing the extension of the duration of the Compact for a period of up to one year, in order to absorb any delays caused by "Covid-19".

Ms. Malika Laasri, Director General of the MCA-Morocco Agency, then briefed the members of the Board on the state of play of the implementation of Compact II since the last session of the COS, highlighting the significant financial achievements made by the Agency, as evidenced by a commitment rate of funds currently amounting to 67.62%, the equivalent of nearly $304.3 million, almost double the level recorded in June 2020.

The floor was then given to Mr. Mohammed Fikrat, member of the COS and Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee, to present the Report of the Committee concerning the review of the results of the Compact program audit covering the period from the 5th of May 2015 to September 30th 2019.

After the presentations, the COS Chair opened the debate for the interventions of the COS members.

At the end of that session and after deliberation, the Board approved the following resolutions:

**Resolution No. 1:**

The Board approves the minutes of the9th session of the COS held on October 14, 2020.

**Resolution No. 2:**

The Board approves the report on the results of the Compact program audit covering the period from the 5th of May 2015 to September 30th 2019, as well as the corrective action plan.

**Resolution No. 3:**

The Board approves the revised and updated Audit Plan.

**Resolution No. 4:**

The Board approves the partial reallocation of credits to the benefit of the "Charaka" Fund.

**Resolution No. 5:**

The Board approves the specific agreements concluded with the AREF of Tangier-Tetouan-Hoceima, Fez-Meknes and Marrakech-Safi, for the realization of the services of "Design and implementation of training" within the framework of the "Lycée Attahadi" Model.

**Resolution No. 6:**

The Board approves 14 amendments to the agreements and grant agreements concluded by the MCA-Morocco Agency with the promoters of projects for the creation, extension or rehabilitation of vocational training establishments financed under the “Charaka" Fund.

**Resolution No. 7:**

The Board approves the updated Agency Procurement Program.

**Resolution No. 8:**

The Board approves the draft contract EW-42 (acquisition of ANAPEC information system hardware) and authorized the Director General to sign it.

**Resolution No. 9:**

The Board approves amendments to the following contracts: ADM-01 (Amendment No. 6); ADM-02 (Amendment No. 3); PP-13-R (Amendment No. 2); ME-06 (Amendment No. 2); EW-01 (Amendment No. 11).

The Board meeting was concluded at around 12 noon.