

*Summary of the minutes of the third session of the COS held on December 6th 2017*

The Strategic Orientation Council (COS) of the MCA-Morocco Agency held its third session on Wednesday, December 6th, 2017, at 10 a.m., under the chairmanship of the Head of Government, Mr. Saâd Dine El Otmani, President of the COS.

At the opening of this session, the COS Chair stressed that this meeting is an opportunity to take stock of the state of implementation of the Compact, and to highlight the collective commitment of the parties involved to make it a success. In that regard, he expressed his satisfaction with the effective mobilization of relevant stakeholders and their commitment to the exemplary participatory approach adopted in the implementation of the Compact. He also noted that the importance of the Compact lies not only in the amount allocated or in the nature of the structuring projects it includes, but also in the approaches and governance schemes adopted, noting in this regard that the monitoring and evaluation plan submitted to the COS for approval aims to ensure the progress made and to measure the actual impacts on the projects beneficiaries through indicators quantified in significant qualitative terms.

Moreover, the COS Chair recalled the importance of setting up a commission to monitor the implementation of projects, reaffirming that he would personally ensure the regularity of the meetings of this commission and the monitoring of its work, in order to ensure better coordination between all involved parties and to overcome any difficulties that might hinder the program implementation.

Following this speech, the Board approved the minutes of the 2nd session of the COS, held on May 24th, 2017.

The members of the COS then heard a speech by the Resident Director of MCC-Morocco, Mr. Walter W. Siouffi, who welcomed the efforts made during the first 6 months of the Compact entry into force and stressed the importance of continuing the pace set since the duration of the Compact is limited to 5 years.

The COS Chair then gave the floor to the Director General of the MCA-Morocco Agency, Mr. Abdelghni Lakhdar, who recalled the agenda of the 3rd session of the COS before presenting the progress of the program subject to the Compact since the second session of the COS. He also introduced draft decisions and documents submitted to the COS for approval or information.

The COS Chair then opened the discussion. In their interventions, the members of the COS expressed their satisfaction with the pace of progress in the implementation of the program. The discussions focused on the clarification of certain issues such as gender and social integration, the involvement of professional associations, the criteria and approach for the choice of beneficiaries and regions covered by compact projects, the content of the Monitoring & Evaluation pPlan, the Audit Plan and the accounting standards adopted by the Agency.

The COS Chair then gave the floor to the Director General who clarified the questions and comments of the members of the COS.

After deliberations, the Board adopted the following resolutions, which were read out by the President:

**Resolution No. 1:**

The Board approves the minutes of its 2nd session held on May 24th, 2017.

**Resolution No. 2:**

The Board approves the draft agreement on the implementation entity of the "Industrial Land" activity between the Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade and the Digital Economy and the MCA-Morocco Agency, and authorizes the Director General of the Agency to sign it.

**Resolution No. 3:**

The Board approves the draft agreement on the implementation entity of the "Employment" activity between the Ministry of Labor and Professional Integration, the National Agency for the Promotion of Employment and Skills (ANAPEC) and the MCA-Morocco Agency, and authorizes the Director General of the Agency to sign it.

**Resolution No. 4:**

The Board approves the draft Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Compact.

**Resolution No. 5:**

The Board approves the draft Audit Plan for the Compact.

**Resolution No. 6:**

The Board approves the partnership agreement concluded on December 5th, 2017, by the MCA-Morocco Agency with the Education for Employment Foundation (EFE), within the framework of the Education for Employability Partnership Fund.

**Resolution No. 7:**

The Board approves the partnership agreement concluded on December 5th, 2017, by the MCA-Morocco Agency with the Moroccan Foundation for School Support (FMSS), within the framework of the Education for Employability Partnership Fund.

**Resolution No. 8:**

The Board approves the partnership agreement concluded on December 5th, 2017, by the MCA-Morocco Agency with the Consortium Association ATIL-CODESPA Foundation, within the framework of the Education for Employability Partnership Fund.

**Resolution No. 9:**

The Board approves the draft amendment to the Handbook of Procedures of the Education for Employability Partnership Fund.

**Resolution No. 10:**

The Board approves the draft charter of the implementation Compact projects monitoring commission, established pursuant to Resolution No. 5 adopted by the COS at its 2nd session.

**Resolution No. 11:**

The Board authorizes the Director-General to sign amendments for the purpose of extending the duration of the contracts or revising upwards their amounts, up to a limit of 50% each, provided that the additional amount does not exceed one million dollars.

**Resolution No. 12:**

The Board establishes a commission composed of representatives of the Services of the Head of Government, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and one of the members representing the private sector or civil society in the COS.

This Commission is responsible for reviewing and agreeing to amendments to extend the duration or increase the amounts of the contracts by more than 50% each, or by one million dollars.

The agreement of this commission constitutes an authorization for the Director General to sign the said amendments, with the responsibility for submitting them to the COS for approval at its next session.

**Resolution No. 13:**

The Board approves the amendment of the Agency's organizational chart according to the formula agreed with MCC and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

**Resolution No. 14:**

The Board approves the amendment to the Agency's Procurement Program.

**Resolution No. 15:**

The Board approves two contracts concluded in the context of the implementation of the Agency's Procurement Program. These are:

1. Technical assistance contract concluded with the consortium C2D Services Inc. & FQDE and relating to support the launch and implementation of the "Integrated Establishment Projects - PEI" within the framework of the Integrated Model for the Improvement of Secondary Schools (MIAES) component under the "Secondary Education" activity and this, at the level of 34 schools in the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceïma Region.
2. Contract with SITA Corporation for the acquisition, deployment and maintenance of the INTEGRATED SAP Information and Management System on the basis of a prototype developed by MCC for all MCA-country entities.