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Arab NGO Network
for Development

شبكة المنظمات العربية
غير الحكومية للتنمية

Third Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Arab Voices for a Progressive Financing for Development:

Rights-Based Approaches to Achieving Tax Justice and Debt Sustainability.

 **Tuesday, January 28, 2025**

 **16:00-18:30**

 **(Beirut Time), Via Zoom**

Overview of Previous and Current Advisory Meetings

I. The First Advisory Meeting (March 2024)

The first advisory meeting focused on highlighting issues related to debt sustainability in the region. It included:

First: Discussing the main challenges facing debt sustainability in the region.

Second: Assessing regional and international debt management frameworks in terms of their ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and combat climate change.

II. The Second Advisory Meeting (August 2024)

The second advisory meeting focused on two main areas:

First: Discussing the regional report on sovereign debt in the Arab region and evaluating the themes covered in it.

Second: Discussing and evaluating the draft outline for national reports, in accordance

with the Terms of Reference (ToR) and Guidelines for the National Reports in the Arab region.

III. The Third Advisory Meeting (January 2025)

As part of the 'Arab Voices for a Progressive Financing for Development' project, which aims to deepen the conversation within civil society in the Arab region on sovereign debt issues and tax justice, the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) is organizing the third advisory meeting on the project. The meeting aims to:

First: Present and discuss the draft outlines of two training manuals addressing sovereign debt and tax justice. These manuals are designed to support civil society organizations in the Arab region by equipping them with the knowledge and tools needed to deepen their understanding of these issues and strengthening advocacy efforts to achieve more equitable financing patterns for development. Additionally, the manuals aim to contribute to influencing the formulation of economic and social policies at national and regional levels, with a particular focus on human rights and the social, economic, and environmental aspects of development, ensuring that Arab communities are protected from debt crises and their consequences.

Second: Highlight global dialogue priorities on debt sustainability and tax reforms. These discussions will help identify the strategic priorities of ANND and its partners in this project regarding sovereign debt and tax justice issues.

16:00-16:10	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>-Overview of the 'Arab Voices for a Progressive Financing for Development' project: progress update and next steps.</p>	<p>Ziad Abdel Samad <i>Executive Director, ANND</i></p>
16:10-17:00	<p>Part One: Training Manuals on Sovereign Debt and Tax Justice</p> <p>-Training Manual on Sovereign Debt: Brief presentation of the manual's outline and objectives (10 minutes)</p> <p>-Training Manual on Tax Justice: Brief presentation of the manual's outline and objectives (10 minutes)</p> <p>Discussion (30 minutes)</p>	<p>Zeina Abla <i>Independent Researcher</i></p> <p>Naser Abdel Karim <i>Arab American University, Palestine</i></p> <p>Moderator: Manar Zaiter <i>ANND</i></p>
17:00-17:45	<p>Part Two: Key Themes of the Global Dialogue on Sovereign Debt</p> <p>- Presentation on key themes related to the global dialogue on debt sustainability, including the call for establishing a UN framework agreement on sovereign debt (15 minutes).</p> <p>Discussion (30 minutes): Strategic Directions and Priorities on Debt Issues.</p>	<p>Goh Chien Yen <i>Third World Network</i></p> <p>Moderator: Rabie Nasr, <i>Syrian Center for Policy Research</i></p>
17:45:18:30	<p>Part Three: Key Themes of the Global Dialogue on Tax Justice</p> <p>- Presentation on key themes related to tax justice: tax rules, international tax cooperation, and desired key reforms (15 minutes)</p> <p>Discussion (30 minutes): Strategic Directions and Priorities on Tax Justice</p>	<p>Tommaso Faccio <i>ICRICT</i></p> <p>Moderator: Hassan Sherry</p>
Closing Remarks		