

Tunis, May 19<sup>th</sup> 2015

## **Tunisian Civil Society Asks around the World Bank Consultations on the Systematic Country Diagnostic and Country Partnership Framework**

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We, the undersigned group of Tunisian civil society organizations (CSOs), express our deep interest in the next phase of development in our country. As we learned during the Spring Meetings in Washington DC that the Tunisian Country Partnership Framework (CPF) will be ready by early September 2015 and given that the remaining short timeframe shall not be optimum for achieving meaningful participation in Tunisia (*See attachment: Asks of Egyptian, Yemeni, and Tunisian civil society organizations, presented to the World Bank in 2014*) because of the local work schedule in Ramadan and during the summer being limited to one shift, we would like to inquire about the announcement of the proposed World Bank timeframe for conducting Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD)/CPF consultations with local CSOs.

Furthermore, we heard during the Spring Meetings from World Bank staff who work on SCD policy that this is a consultative document. That's why we kindly ask the Bank to inform us whether SCD consultations will be held in Tunisia, or whether a draft SCD has already been developed; in that case, or as soon as it is, to kindly provide a copy of it at the earliest possible time in Arabic and French.

In order to ensure full and effective participation in the World Bank consultations from non-governmental stakeholders, we would like to request the World Bank to:

- provide information on the effectiveness of the SCD for Tunisia, given that it has not yet been released, and whether it was endorsed in determining the priorities of the upcoming CPF.
- diffuse the draft CPF in Arabic and French, at the same time or shortly after the disclosure of the English version, to ensure the disclosure and the availability of necessary information to the general public and civil society.
- hold consultations in the capital as well as internal regions, including but not limited to: Tataouine, Gabes, Kasserine, Kairouan, Bizerte, Beja...
- organize at least one separate session for Civil Society Organizations (with no participation from the private sector) in each location.
- announce the consultations and send invitations at least ten (10) days prior to the fixed consultation date, and provide in advance the documents that will be discussed.
- provide information on the consultations and the timeframe as well as documents in Arabic and French on the Tunisia page of the World Bank website, and allow publication of online suggestions and comments from CSOs throughout the CPF consultation process.
- provide an external Tunisian specialized coordinator to moderate the consultations, and a facilitator from the World Bank to give more information, and to ensure proper time allocation for invited CSOs to the consultations for comments and input provision.

- record the consultations' discussions and collect a final list of priorities to be formally diffused.
- publish the above list and the consultation sessions' proceedings onto the relevant website to allow CSOs verifying the inclusion of their input in respective contexts.

Toward ensuring participants of the meaningfulness of the consultation process, we would highly appreciate sharing the draft CPF with input and suggestions incorporated to easily track the gradual development of the document. Finally, given the importance of this process, Arabic translation should be made available throughout the different stages.

Best Regards.

## Signature

| Organization  | Responsible, Position   | Region                         |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Tunisian Association for Transparency in Energy and Mines (ATTEM)</b>                  | <b>Houda Belghaji</b> , <i>Member of Executive Committee</i>                                | Tunis                          |
| <b>Tunisian Foundation for Decentralization and Local Governance (registration phase)</b> | <b>Chokri Yaich</b> , <i>Professor and former Member of Tunisian Parliament (2011-2014)</i> | Sfax                           |
| <b>Touensa Association</b>  | <b>Hajer Trabelsi</b> , <i>Member of Executive Committee</i>                                | Tunis                          |
| <b>Union of Unemployed Graduates in Tunisia (UDC)</b>                                     | <b>Aymen Mrad</b> , <i>Representative</i>   | Tunis, Tunisia                 |
| <b>Tunisian Association for Development Law (ATDD)</b>                                    | <b>Sihem Bouazza</b> , <i>President</i>   | Tunis                          |
| <b>Observatory of Municipalities and Urban Planning (ONMPU)</b>                           | <b>Iskander Rekik</b> , <i>President</i>  | Tunis, Nabeul, Monastir & Sfax |
| <b>Kolna Tounes Association</b>   | <b>Mohamed Arifet</b> , <i>Regional representative</i>                                      | Tataouine                      |
| <b>Tunisian Association for Public Auditors (ATCP)</b>                                    | <b>Charfeddine Yaakoubi</b> , <i>President</i>  | Tunis                          |
| <b>I Watch -Tunisia</b>   | <b>Achraf Aouadi</b> , <i>President</i>   | Tunis, Tunisia                 |
| <b>JCI Menzel Abderrahmen</b>   | <b>Rabaa Bousbih</b> , <i>President</i>   | Bizerte                        |
| <b>Transparency 25</b>  | <b>Riadh Ben Hmida</b> , <i>Member of Executive Committee</i>                               | Tunis                          |
| <b>Citizens and Solidarity Association</b>  | <b>Mouna Mathari</b> , <i>Project Manager</i>   | Tunis & Beja                   |
| <b>Young Leaders Forum Tunisia</b>  | <b>Tarek Keskes</b> , <i>Member</i>   | Tunis                          |