## PRESS RELEASE

## The Board of the Moroccan Observatory for Very Small, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises holds its first meeting

## Rabat, June 13, 2016

The board of directors of the Moroccan Observatory for Very Small, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (OMTPME) held its first meeting at the headquarters of Bank Al-Maghrib in Rabat, on June 13.

The primary mission of this new institution is to centralize data and information on the national and regional environments of very small, small, and medium-sized enterprises (VSMEs). It is also responsible for establishing quantitative and qualitative indicators on the conditions of access to bank financing and support mechanisms. The products and services that will be provided by the Observatory will set up a common and nationally-shared comprehensive vision on the problem of VSMEs' financing. The new body is called upon to address the lack of reliable and regular data on VSMEs in Morocco and improve access to various services and information.

Since the establishment of the OMTPME, several structural actions have been carried out, particularly to prepare its mode of governance, conduct preliminary studies, prepare statistics and create the databases needed for its operation and establish an adequate information system.

The first board meeting of the OMTPME was chaired by Mr. Abdellatif Jouahri, Governor of Bank Al-Maghrib, and was attended by:

- Mrs. Latifa Echihabi, Secretary General of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Investment and the Digital Economy;
- Mr. Aziz Ajbilou, Secretary General of the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance;
- Mrs. Fouzia Zaâboul, Director of Treasury and External Finance, Ministry of Economy and Finance;
- Mrs. Meriem Bensalah Chaqroun, President of the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM);
- Mr. Abdelhak Allalat, Director of National Accounts at the High Commission for Planning;
- Mr. Hatim Skalli, Advisor to the Head of the Government;
- Mr. Hicham Zanati Serghini, Director General of the Central Guarantee Fund (CCG);

- Mr. Adil El Maliki, Director General of the Moroccan Commercial and Industrial Property Office (OMPIC);
- Mr. Larbi Benrazzouk, Director General of Maroc PME;
- Mr. Said Ahmidouch, Director General of the National Social Security Fund (CNSS);
- Mr. Nabyl Lakhdar, from the Tax Directorate;
- Mr. El Hadi Chaibainou, Director General of the Moroccan Bankers Association of (GPBM).

During this meeting, the Board approved the following:

- The budget of the OMTPME and its distribution among members;
- The draft rules of procedure;
- The framework for the exchange of data between the Observatory and data providers;
- The delegation to the Chairman to select and appoint the Executive Director.

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