



April 27, 2017

Press release

On the occasion of the Arab Financial Inclusion Day

The Board of Governors of Arab Central Banks and Monetary Agencies highlights the importance of promoting financial inclusion to achieve sustainable development in Arab countries

Aware of the increasing importance attached to promoting access to financing and financial services in order to achieve comprehensive and sustainable economic growth and strengthen economic and financial stability, the Board of Governors of Arab Central Banks and Monetary Agencies, on the occasion of the **Arab Financial Inclusion Day**, reaffirms its commitment to continue giving utmost priority to issues relating to enhancing financial inclusion as part of the economic policies undertaken.

The Board reiterates in this context its resolve to go ahead with enacting laws, regulations and supervision frameworks that help better disseminate and develop financial and banking services, encourage innovation in this area and promote sound infrastructure systems for the financial sector.

The Arab Financial Inclusion Day aims at raising awareness and shedding light on financial inclusion and its prerequisites in Arab countries, as well as on all related issues, policies and programs. It also falls in line with the desire of Arab countries to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and attain financial services inclusion for all economic institutions and social categories in Arab countries.

On this occasion, **H.E Abdellatif Jouahri**, Governor of Bank Al-Maghrib and Chairman of the current Board Session, stressed the need for awareness-raising as part of the efforts aimed at improving access to financial services, underscored the importance of full cooperation by all parties through executives, institutions and regional and international competent organizations, as well as the need to deepen public-private partnership so as to attain universal access to financial services in Arab countries.

HE Dr. **Abdulrahman AlHamidy**, Director General Chairman of the Arab Monetary Fund Board, also highlighted the importance of the decision to adopt the Arab Financial Inclusion Day, underlining its role in contributing to developing policies and procedures for the promotion of financial inclusion and finding ways to improve financial inclusion indicators in the Arab region. He further pledged the Fund's commitment to pursue efforts aimed at providing the appropriate environment to meet the goals of financial inclusion in the Arab world.