

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION NOTE

1- Background: The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), represented by the ICT Policies Section of the Technology for Development Division, is organizing the regional workshop on assessment of achievements and future perspectives for the sustainability of the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the ESCWA Region ([AIGLE](#)).

The project aims to assist policymakers in Arab countries to build capacities in the area of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Development, in order to reduce barriers to ICT adoption and promote the application of ICT in accelerating socioeconomic development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals as well as the Sustainable Development Goals.

ESCWA prepared four training modules within this project, the themes of which were based on a regional survey and needs assessment in the area of ICT for Development; and seeks to disseminate these modules in the Arab region through organizing regional and sub-regional training-of-trainers sessions and workshops. The project also aims at enhancing the capacity of national partners, mainly public administration teaching institutions, information technology or e-Government authorities and agencies, as well as paving the way for the development of training programmes (including new training modules) through promoting the participation of concerned and interested national institutions and individuals and ownership of the process, towards maximizing the impact and sustainability of the Academy. ESCWA has organized two training of trainers workshops during 8 – 12 June and 24 – 27 August 2015, at the United Nations House in Beirut. 106 experts in the field of ICT for development from 14 Arab countries attended the workshop. Among them 88 experts are to become trainers on AIGLE modules in their countries, in addition to 14 national coordinators of the project and 13 experts who have contributed in review the training modules.

Currently, an online training platform is under development to host content on the AIGLE project and the training modules to be accessible to all stakeholders. Collaborative partnerships are being initiated with various entities, including national governmental and academic institutions related to public administration.

2- Objectives: The main objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- (a) Present the achievements of AIGLE;
- (b) Present AIGLE e-learning platform;
- (c) Present the progress in the implementation of AIGLE national plans;
- (e) Discuss the future needs;
- (f) Discuss potential scenarios for the sustainability of the Academy.

3- Topics: The workshop will cover the current status of the project , its activities, performance indicators, national plans progress, various scenarios at medium and long term for the sustainability.

4- Outcome: Through discussions with the experts participating to the workshop, It is expected identify the optimal adequate model for the sustainability of the Academy at the regional and national level.

5- Participants: Participants in the workshop include high-level experts who have either prepared or reviewed the four training modules of the academy, and the focal points from the participating Arab countries.

6- Organisation, venue and dates: ESCWA is organizing the workshop during 21-22 December 2015, at the UN-House, Riad el Solh, Beirut, Lebanon.

7- Working language: The workshop will use Arabic as the working language in its sessions.

8- Additional information: Inquiries can be sent to escwa-aigle@un.org and additional information are available through:

Arabic:

<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetailsar.asp?referenceNum=3763A>

English:

<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNUM=3763e>