

*Summary of the minutes of the COS session held on July 13th,2018*

The Strategic Orientation Council (COS) of the MCA-Morocco Agency met on Friday, July 13th, 2018, at 10 a.m., under the chairmanship of the Head of Government Mr. Saâd Dine El Otmani, President of the COS.

At the opening of this session, the COS Chair stressed that this meeting was an opportunity to evaluate the results of the implementation of the second Compact, one year after its entry into force, and to consider the next steps.

The COS Chair welcomed the proactive approach, participatory method and governance tools that characterize the implementation of the Compact, while stressing that they are a determining factor for the success of the projects and their ownership by stakeholders. He also called for its inspiration in future projects, particularly in public projects involving significant investments, recalling the directives of His Majesty the King in this regard.

The COS Chair also reviewed the main results of the first year of the Compact implementation, praising the efforts made by the various stakeholders and the results achieved at the end of this first year.

The COS Chair finally called on the stakeholders to continue their mobilization and redouble their efforts to succeed in this great project, and reiterated his support and availability to overcome any possible constraints.

Following this speech, the Board approved the minutes of the COS session held on December 6th ,2017.

Next, MCC's Resident Director in Morocco, Mr. Walter W. Siouffi, welcomed the progress made at the end of the first year of the Compact. He also thanked the Head of Government for his availability and constant support, as well as the various departments for their remarkable mobilization, commitment, and contribution, which have made it possible to achieve an honorable assessment today.

The COS Chair then gave the floor to the Director General of MCA-Morocco Agency, Mr. Abdelghni Lakhdar, who recalled the agenda of the meeting, before presenting an assessment of the achievements of the program subject to the Compact, one year after its entry into force.

The COS Chair then opened the discussion. In their interventions, the members of the COS expressed their satisfaction with the results achieved so far. The discussions focused on clarifying issues such as the involvement of civil society and private sector, the project monitoring system and the implementation of the management autonomy of secondary schools.

The Director General of the Agency responded to the comments and questions of the members of the COS, before presenting the draft resolutions and documents submitted to the COS for approval or information.

After deliberations, the Board adopted the following resolutions, which were read out by the President:

**Resolution No. 1:**

The Board approves the minutes of the COS session held on December 6th ,2017.

**Resolution No. 2:**

The Board approves the agreement relating to the implementation entity of the "Secondary Education" and "TVET" activities, concluded between the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, and the MCA-Morocco Agency, as revised and amended, and authorizes the Director General of the Agency to sign it.

**Resolution No. 3:**

The Board authorizes the Director General of the Agency to sign draft contracts the amount of which exceeds by not more than 25% the estimate of the related service, as it appears in the Procurement Plan.

**Resolution No. 4:**

The Commission established under Resolution No. 12 of the session of the COS held on December 6th 2017, is responsible, in addition to the competencies devolved to it by the said resolution, to:

1. Give its approval to draft contracts whose amount exceeds by more than 25% the estimate of the related service, as it appears in the Procurement Plan;
2. Give its consent to draft contracts whose clauses include substantial changes to the specifications contained in the call for tenders initially launched, and this after obtaining by the Agency the notice of no objection from MCC.

The above-mentioned agreement of the Commission constitutes authorization for the Director-General to sign the contracts in question, with the responsibility of submitting them to the COS for subsequent approval.

**Resolution No. 5:**

The Board approves the Agency's Conflict of Interest Policy.

**Resolution No. 6:**

The Board approves the Agency's Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct.

**Resolution No. 7:**

The Board approves the Agency's Procurement Plan, as revised and amended.

**Resolution No. 8:**

The Board approves the draft contract for the Needs Analysis, the development of a training plan, the conduct of training and the development of a gender manual and tool kit, the call for tenders for which is referenced in the Agency's Procurement Plan.

**Resolution No. 9:**

The Board approves draft amendments to contracts concluded in the context of the implementation of the Agency's Procurement Plan, as presented by the Director General.