



2nd UfM PROGRESS REPORT ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Implemented by
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Palau de Pedralbes, Barcelona / 12 September 2025

#UfM4RegionalIntegration

09:00 – 09:30

Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:30 – 10:10

Opening Remarks (Music Room):

- **Nasser Kamel** Secretary General Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)
- **Mathias Cormann** Secretary-General Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Keynote Speeches (Music Room):

- **Rania Al-Mashat** (*video message*) Minister of Planning, Economic Development and International Cooperation Arab Republic of Egypt
- **Joaquín Francisco Puig Ferrer** Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the OECD
- **Francisco Gaztelu Mezquiriz** (*video message*) Director North Africa Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf (DG MENA)
- **Christoph Rauh** Africa Director Federal Ministry of Economic Development & Cooperation of Germany (BMZ)
- **Dima Al-Khatib** (*video message*) Director United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

10:10 – 10:20

MoU Signature between the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (Music Room)

10:20 – 10:40

Coffee Break

10:45 - 11:45

Panel I: Trade and Finance Integration: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Way Forward (Music Room)

- **Senen Florensa** Executive President European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- **Ahmed Kamaly** Associate Professor, Department of Economics American University in Cairo, Egypt
- **Fatma Marrakchi Charfi** Directrice du laboratoire d'Intégration Économique Internationale Université de Tunis el Manar, Tunisia
- **Wissam Fattouh** (*video message*) Secretary General Union of Arab Banks

Moderated by Carlos Conde, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Executive Advisor for the Istanbul Centre - Global Relations and Cooperation Directorate - OECD

11:45 - 12:45

Panel II: Unlocking the full potential for greater regional economic integration through infrastructure connectivity, movement of people, and higher education and research (Music Room)

- **Stefano Dotto** Head of Sector Good Governance and Security European Commission Directorate-General for Middle East, North Africa, Gulf (DG MENA) A2 - Pact for the Mediterranean, Egypt
- **Hugues Moussy** Head of Intelligence Unit European Training Foundation (ETF)
- **Hala Barakat** Senior Director Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Onsi Sawiris School of Business - The American University in Cairo
- **Karim Bitar** Professor of International Relations and former director of the Institute of Political Science at the Saint-Joseph University of Beirut Associate Fellow at the Institute for International and Strategic Relations (IRIS, Paris), at the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP) and at the Middle East Institute (MEI, Washington DC)
- **Françeska Muço** Executive Director Young Professionals Network

Moderated by Mr. Mohammed Elrazzaz, Head of Sector for Regional Integration, Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat

12:45 - 13:00

Wrap-up (Music Room)

- **Carlos Conde** Head of the Middle East and Africa Division
Executive Advisor for the Istanbul Centre Global Relations and
Cooperation Directorate - OECD
- **Meltem Büyükkarakaş** Deputy Secretary General Economic
Development and Employment Union for the Mediterranean
Secretariat

13:00 - 14:00

Networking Lunch
