

Tunisia

Technical Assistance in Fiscal Year 2022

Central Bank Operations (November 15-April 30)

Building on the report “Tunisia. Technical Note. METAC CD Workplan for Central Banking Operations (FY22-26), March 2021” and a Roadmap developed by the Central Bank of Tunisia (CBT), METAC and the CBT continued the analysis of CBT’s operational framework for monetary policy and exchange rate policy. The objective was to define the most appropriate technical assistance to be delivered by METAC. Tunisia relies intensively on several Technical Assistance providers, with the implication that the right synergies have also to be identified.

Public Financial Management (September 6-17; May 18-28)

This was a follow-up mission to further train authorities on the state-owned enterprise (SOE) health check tool, assist authorities in drafting an outline for a budget annex on fiscal risks from SOEs and update the project roadmap. The authorities made good progress in using the tool and strengthening the dialog with main SOEs. Synthetic flash cards to summarize the financial performance and main fiscal risks for each reviewed SOE are now available to inform policy decisions.

METAC assisted Ministry of Finance’s staff in assessing the financial performance and risks of SOEs. It trained them in the use of the IMF’s SOE health check tool, with application to three large SOEs. METAC also helped the authorities to design a tool to automate financial data collection from SOEs and made suggestions to amend the report on SOEs—annexed to the budget law—with the objective to improve fiscal transparency. A workshop facilitated by the METAC team gathered over 40 participants; it presented the results of the SOE health check tool in the form of synthetic flash cards—a Ministry of Finance staff presented the Ministry’s own IT system to centralize financial data from SOEs.

Revenue Administration (May 17-26)

METAC assisted the Tunisian Customs Authority on the implementation of an internal audit unit. The unit has been implemented through only an internal note and lacks human and financial resources. METAC advised on how to strengthen the structure and work of the unit and assisted the customs authority in the development of a comprehensive action plan in this regard.