Dear Representatives of the Steering Committee,

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) hereby endorses the project presented by the Government of Morocco on Northern Africa: Improving Connectivity in the Maghreb and is ready to assist the Government of Morocco to carry it out and implement it in accordance with the Transition Fund’s Operations Manual and related procedures. This project is jointly endorsed by the OECD and the World Bank Group, which are the designated Implementation Support Agencies for this project.

The project is supporting the Government of Morocco in reducing trade transaction costs and streamlining the chains of international trade between Morocco, the Maghreb countries and with their major trading partners. The OECD-executed component will contribute to building effective tax systems, transparency and efficiency of international linkages based on international standards, with a focus on tax transactions.

This project has been prepared and finalised according to the OECD normal policies and procedures as set up by the OECD Governing Body. The appraisal of the project has been completed and cleared by the OECD management following internal consultation of the relevant OECD offices.

This endorsement letter is accompanied by the proper documentation reflecting the agreement by the OECD Governing Body to carry out such activities. The project proposal is hereby submitted to the Steering Committee with a request for approval.

Sincerely yours,

ANDREAS SCHAAAL

Cc: Franck Bousquet, Senior Regional Advisor, MNAVP, World Bank Group