

As per fifteen conventions concluded on Monday 16 February 2009 in Tunis, banks committed themselves to better supervise companies operating in the sectors of industry and agriculture.

These conventions were signed in the presence of Mr. Taoufik BACCAR, Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia, Mr. Afif CHELBI, Minister of industry, energy and small and medium-sized businesses and Mr. Abdessalem MANSOUR, Minister of agriculture and hydraulic resources.

In his intervention, Mr. Taoufik BACCAR, Governor of the BCT focused on the need to strengthen the role of business incubators in boosting investment.

He underlined that associating banks to management of incubators will undoubtedly boost efficiency of these structures that he described as a "major enhancing mechanism to investment".

The conventions, called also co-management conventions aim at further implementing the lending institutions in management of business incubators (vice-presidency in the steering committee, choosing the coach, selecting project ideas...)

This includes overall better supervision of promoters holding ideas in innovative, high-added value projects.

Twelve out of these fifteen conventions involved industrial incubators. They were signed by Mr. Mohamed BEN ABDALLAH, Managing Director at the Industry Promotion Agency (API) as well as Senior Managers of local banks.

Agriculture-related conventions came at five overall and were concluded between Mr. Chokri AYACHI, Managing Director at the Agricultural Investment Promotion Agency (APIA) and a number of banks. The incubators targeted in this framework are specialized in fruit-tree farming, livestock and cereal-farming .