

Mr. Taoufik Baccar, Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT) inaugurated on Tuesday 19 October 2010 in Sidi Bouzid (Tunis northern suburbs) a new pilot branch of the (UBCI) banking union for commerce and industry.

This is a self-service space that helps customers carry all their banking activity automatically.

Mr. BACCAR was informed about the activity of this space, the first of its genre in the Maghreb region. This new concept includes 4 automatons that allow the customer to carry out all current activities (withdrawal and cash deposit, exchange) and this 7days/7, including Sunday, from 6.00 am to 10.00 pm in winter and till midnight in summer.

The Governor of the BCT underlined that this initiative reflects the new orientation of the Tunisian banking sector which consists, mainly, in setting a new generation of bank branches to meet the customer's needs efficiently, swiftly and in the required security.

He noted in this respect the important role of banking reforms decided in the framework of the programme to improve the quality of banking services and make them closer to the citizen, an orientation that the 2009-2014 presidential programme came to boost, mainly, through the avant-garde measures of its 12th point.

Mr. Baccar called for intensifying efforts to implement the presidential programme which targets one bank branch for 7000 Tunisians by 2014 compared to one branch for 8500 citizens currently, requiring the creation of 400 new branches, an average 80 branches per year.

He asserted that the adoption of this modern form of technological outlets reflects the avant-garde role of Tunisia in improving and modernizing the banking services and its major advances in the framework of modernizing the computer system and training of its human resources in a way to adjust to technological transfers of the sector.