Objective

In recognition of its ongoing efforts to creating an environment conducive to investment for sustainable and inclusive growth, Kazakhstan has been invited by the OECD to adhere to the Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises, an OECD international investment instrument designed to help the country attract more and better investment and promote responsible business conduct. This session will present the Investment Policy Review of Kazakhstan, which was undertaken to accompany the adherence to the Declaration.

About the OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is a forum in which governments compare and exchange policy experiences, identify good practices in light of emerging challenges, and promote decisions and recommendations to produce better policies for better lives. The OECD’s mission is to promote policies that improve economic and social well-being of people around the world.

About the OECD Investment Policy Reviews

OECD Investment Policy Reviews present an overview of investment trends and policies in the countries reviewed. This can include investment policy, investment promotion and facilitation, competition, trade, taxation, corporate governance, finance, infrastructure, developing human resources, policies to promote responsible business conduct, investment in support of green growth, and broader issues of public governance. The reviews take a comprehensive approach using the OECD Policy Framework for Investment to assess the climate for domestic and foreign investment at sub-national, national or regional levels. They then propose actions for improving the framework conditions for investment and discuss challenges and opportunities for further reforms.

For more information visit: www.oecd.org/investment/countryreviews.htm

About the OECD Kazakhstan Country Programme

Kazakhstan is one of the three first countries to implement an OECD Country Programme, which offers partner countries a unique whole-of-government/whole-of-OECD engagement, with a view to supporting the country’s reform agenda and strengthening its role as a reform leader in its region. The Kazakhstan Country Programme (KCP) initially covered the 2015-2016 period, but the two sides have since decided to extend it to end-2018.

The KCP comprises 19 policy reviews or capacity-building projects, potential adherence by Kazakhstan to 29 OECD instruments, and enhanced participation in seven OECD Committees or their subsidiary bodies. The Programme is organised around seven broad themes: i) public governance, ii) fiscal affairs, iii) education, iv) competitiveness and business climate, v) health, employment and social inclusion, vi) statistics and vii) the environment.

Date, time and venue

15 June 2017, 11:30-13:00, Ceremonial Hall, 1st floor, Palace of Independence, Astana

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Opening and Welcoming Remarks

Moderator: Darmen Sadvakasov, Senior partner, Center for Strategic initiatives

- Welcome by Yerlan Khairov, Vice Minister for Investments and Development, Republic of Kazakhstan
- Opening remarks by Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD

Main findings from the Investment Policy Review: Progress to date and way forward

This session will focus on recent government efforts to improve the investment climate and promote responsible business conduct, as well as challenges ahead.

Moderator: Darmen Sadvakasov, Senior partner, Center for Strategic initiatives

Speakers:

- Frederic Wehrle, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD: Kazakhstan’s investment climate—what has been achieved and where to go from here?
- Tihana Bule, Economist and Policy Analyst, OECD: Responsible business conduct in Kazakhstan

Respondent:

- Aselle Sugurbayeva, Deputy Director of the Department of Foreign Economic Cooperation, Ministry for Investments and Development

Open discussion

Remarks by stakeholders and general discussion

This session aims to promote open and frank dialogue amongst the panelists, and between the panelists and the audience.

Moderator: Darmen Sadvakasov, Senior partner, Center for Strategic initiatives

Panelists:

- Pascal Breant, Governing Board Member, Kazakhstan Foreign Investors Council, Managing Director, Total Exploration & Production Kazakhstan
- Talgat Doskenov, Chairman of the Committee for Social Sphere and Social Partnership of the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan «Atameken»
- Tatyana Zinovich, Executive Director, Legal Policy Research Centre
- Yeraly Beksultan, Private Sector Specialist, Global Practice for Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank Group

Open discussion

Closing session

- Kazakhstan’s adherence to the OECD investment instruments: Next steps by Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD
- Closing remarks by Republic of Kazakhstan