

## APPOINTMENT OF THE NEXT SECRETARY GENERAL

### MEETING OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATION (HOD)

Friday, 25 November 2005

#### Dean's report on the third stage of consultations

The purpose of this meeting is to allow me and my colleagues in this exercise – Ambassador Jocelyne Bourgon (Canada) and Ambassador Peter Brückner (Denmark), acting as Facilitators – to report to the membership on the outcome of the last stage of consultations regarding the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General of the OECD.

The appointment process started on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005 with an invitation to Member countries to nominate candidates until July 15<sup>th</sup> 2005, based on the common understanding by heads of Delegations (HOD) of March 24, 2005 on the modalities for the selection of the next Secretary-General (including the benchmark for evaluating candidates).

The Procedures agreed by HOD on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005 mandates the Dean and the two facilitators to proceed through a process of consultations with a view to narrow the field of candidates and ultimately to arrive at a consensus on the choice of the new Secretary-General

The previous rounds of consultation identified two candidates of exceptional stature and standing, Mr. Marek Belka and Mr. Angel Gurria. They both enjoy broad support among the membership.

The consultations we have held have been conducted on a strictly confidential basis, and I and both facilitators – and only we – have been present at all the interviews. In the consultation we undertook yesterday, Member countries were asked who of the two candidates should lead the organization in the future. Member countries were also asked to indicate their willingness to join the consensus in the event that their preferred candidate did not get the broadest support.

The first criterion we considered in the assessment of support for the candidates is the number of preferences each candidate attracted. The second criterion we looked at was the breadth of support of each candidate across the entire OECD membership.

Based on that assessment, we can report that Mr. Angel Gurria received the support of a clear majority of Member countries and enjoyed a substantial advantage with regard to the breadth of support across the entire OECD membership.

We have informed the representatives of the two candidates of our assessment before presenting this report to the full membership.

Based on this report and in accordance with our agreed procedures, we recommend to Council to initiate the process to appoint Mr. Angel Gurria as the next Secretary-General of the OECD for a period of 5 years, starting 1 June 2006.

To conclude, we would like to recognise the constructive spirit, the discipline and the commitment to success which animated all of you and your respective governments throughout this process of consultations.