



**EURASIA COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAMME
CENTRAL ASIA INITIATIVE**

**“PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC
CRISIS AND BEYOND”**

**PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
INVESTMENT CLIMATE, POLICY AND PROMOTION**

DRAFT AGENDA

MEETING CO-CHAIRLED BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

17 SEPTEMBER 2009

**VENUE:
INDEPENDENCE PALACE
ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN**

PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Objective

Following the mandate from the First Ministerial meeting of the OECD Central Asia Initiative on 5 November 2008, this preliminary meeting of the Working Group on Investment Climate Policy and Promotion (WG on ICPP) will be held on 17 September 2009 in Astana, Kazakhstan along side the International Conference on Creating Conditions for Sustainable Economic and Social Development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (16-18 September 2009)¹. The purpose of the ICPP meeting is to discuss challenges, country priorities and strategies to improve the investment climate, based on feedback from the participant countries.

Meeting Agenda

The Agenda is split into two sections: the first section is in the morning and is part of the International Conference; the second section is in the afternoon and is purely the Working Group on ICPP.

The First Section: morning of 17th September

The first section of the ICPP meeting is Working Session 2 of the International Conference beginning at 11.00am and entitled, 'Integrity and Ethics in Business for Investment Promotion'. You are kindly requested to register at the International Conference in the morning or on the previous day at 2pm (at the entry hall of the Palace of Independence). You are also cordially invited to their Plenary Session 3 beginning at 10am.

Working Session 2 of the International Conference, 'Integrity and Ethics in Business for Investment Promotion'

- **Business integrity and investments: Promoting responsible business conduct and corporate social responsibility.**

Topics that will be discussed in this session are **the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises** and the importance of enhancing business integrity to create favourable conditions for investment. Case studies will be presented to show what strategies have been developed by non-OECD countries to promote transparency and reduce administrative discretion in sensitive areas (e.g. procurement, licensing, clearance procedures, etc.) to reduce red tape and corruption in both the public and the private sector.

The Second Section: afternoon of 17th September

Agenda Item I

- **Investment policies in times of economic crisis and the OECD's strategic response to the crisis**
An overview of OECD instruments and guidelines related to cross border investment and the importance of keeping transparent and open investment regimes to mitigate the current crisis.

Agenda Item II

- **The impact of the crisis on the countries of Central Asia (CA) and their governments' policy responses**
Discussion on challenges, country priorities and strategies to improve the investment climate and promote responsible business conduct from the perspective of policy makers and the private sector.

Participants

Central Asia and OECD member countries are invited to send experts in the areas of investment policy and investment promotion. Other key partners (e.g. international organisations) who are engaged in activities in these areas will also be invited. The engagement of representatives from the private sector is essential for the success of the Working Group, as the private sector can provide insights into issues affecting investment decisions such as business integrity and streamlined approval procedures. Experts from OECD member countries and from the OECD Secretariat will be present at the meeting.

Contact details

We kindly ask all delegates from beneficiary countries to submit any background notes to be distributed at the meeting to Mr. Daniel Quadbeck by **04 September 2009 (e-mail: daniel.quadbeck@oecd.org, tel.+33-1 45 24 75 22)**.

¹ International Conference organised by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in co-operation with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), hosted by the Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Fighting Economic and Corruption Crime (Financial Police).

WORKING SESSION 2 OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Thursday morning, 17 September 2009

Time	Agenda Item
09.00 – 9.30	Registration at the International Conference
9.30 – 10.30	International Conference Plenary Session 3: Experience of Kazakhstan in preventing and fighting corruption
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee Break
11.00 – 13.00	<p>International Conference Working Session 2: Integrity and ethics in business for investment promotion</p> <p><i>How can key OECD instruments (e.g. OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises) help to enhance business integrity to create favourable conditions for investments and economic development? What strategies have been developed by non-OECD countries to promote transparency and reduce administrative discretion in sensitive areas (e.g. procurement, licensing, clearance procedures, etc.) to reduce the risk of corruption in both the public and the private sector? How can governments and the private sector join forces to strengthen business ethics and ensure fair competition to enhance the efficiency of the markets and to effectively improve the business climate?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Anthony O' Sullivan, Head of Private Sector Development Division, OECD</p> <p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Arto Honkaniemi, Prime Minister's Office of Finland, Representative of Finland to the OECD Steering Group on Corporate Governance • Mr. Joachim Steffens, Ministry of Economics and Technology, Germany, Representative of Germany to the OECD Investment Committee

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Enery Quinones, Chief Compliance Officer, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development • Ms. Elena Mironova, Deputy Director General , Perm Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Russian Federation • Mr. Sultan Akhmatov, Head of Assistance Strategy Department, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Kyrgyz Republic <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Noorullah Delawari, Minister Advisor to the President on Private Sector & CEO of Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA) • Mr. Nodir Sultan-Mukhamedov, Head of Business Development Department, International Chamber of Commerce of Uzbekistan • Ms. Apasova Rima, Head of Department of Foreign Economic Relations, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic • Mr. Azat Peruashev, Chairman of Atameken Union, National Economic Chamber of Kazakhstan
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch

**PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON
INVESTMENT CLIMATE POLICY AND PROMOTION**

All meeting documentation will be available online:

www.oecd.org/daf/psd/eurasia

Thursday afternoon, 17 September 2009

Time	Agenda Item
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Item I - Investment policies in times of economic crisis and the OECD's strategic response to the crisis</p> <p><i>How does the OECD respond to the financial and economic crisis? Which tools can the OECD provide to governments in Central Asia to support investment policy and investment promotion efforts?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remarks Mr. Joachim Steffens, Representative of Germany to the OECD Investment Committee and Co-Chair of the Working Group on Investment Climate, Policy and Promotion Ms. Jeanette Kloetzer, Deputy Head of Mission, OSCE Center Astana Mr. Fadi Farra, Head of Eurasia Competitiveness Programme, OECD • Key note speech: OECD Investment Policy in times of Economic Crisis Mr. Anthony O'Sullivan, Head of Private Sector Development Division, OECD • OECD Investment Policy Instruments Mr. Joachim Steffens, Representative of Germany to the OECD Investment Committee • Overview of the OECD Initiative for Investment and Competitiveness in Central Asia: The need to address Investment Climate Policy and Promotion in the region Mr. Fadi Farra, OECD and Mr. Daniel Quadbeck, Policy Analyst, OECD <p>Discussion</p>
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee Break

Time	Agenda Item
16.30 – 18.00	<p data-bbox="363 315 1433 383">Item II - The impact of the crisis on the countries of Central Asia (CA) and their governments' policy responses</p> <p data-bbox="363 439 1433 539"><i>What are the FDI trends in Central Asia? How have SMEs been impacted by the financial crisis? What are the responses by the governments of the region? What are the major policy barriers to investment that need to be addressed?</i></p> <p data-bbox="363 595 512 629">Moderator:</p> <p data-bbox="363 651 619 685">Mr. Fadi Farra, OECD</p> <p data-bbox="363 752 536 786">Tour de Table</p> <ul data-bbox="411 819 1433 887" style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges, country priorities and strategies to improve the investment climate in Central Asia <p data-bbox="459 909 1433 1189"><i>Delegates from Ministries and Investment Promotion Agencies of Central Asian countries are requested to participate in a discussion on country priorities, challenges and current initiatives to support the investment climate. Topics to be addressed include investment policy regulations and each country's openness and transparency towards foreign investment, e.g. rules and procedures of access for foreign investors, streamlining of procedures through One Stop Shops, registration requirements, sector restrictions, rules of national treatment and investment protection.</i></p> <p data-bbox="363 1279 491 1312">Discussion</p> <ul data-bbox="411 1335 1433 1402" style="list-style-type: none"> • The view from the private sector: What are the major policy barriers to investment that need to be addressed? <p data-bbox="459 1424 1433 1525"><i>Private Sector Representatives, business intermediaries and foreign investors in Central Asia are requested to highlight major policy barriers that hamper private investment and economic development in the region.</i></p>
18.00 – 18.30	<p data-bbox="363 1615 855 1648">Summary of the meeting and next steps</p> <p data-bbox="475 1749 1433 1816">Mr. Joachim Steffens, Representative of Germany to the OECD Investment Committee</p> <p data-bbox="475 1839 735 1872">Mr. Fadi Farra, OECD</p>
19.00	Dinner