DRAFT AGENDA

PRODUCTIVITY AND RESILIENCE IN EURASIA

OECD EURASIA WEEK 2016

22-24 November 2016
OECD Conference Centre
Paris, France

#EurasiaWeek

oe.cd/EurasiaWeek
The OECD is a unique forum where governments work together to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of globalisation. The Organisation provides a setting where governments can compare policy experience, seek answers to common problems, identify good practice and work to coordinate domestic and international policies.

The OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme was launched in 2008 to support Eurasian economies in developing more vibrant and competitive markets – both at the national and regional level – in order to generate sustainable growth. The Programme focuses on a comprehensive approach that includes regional dialogue, peer review, definition of reform priorities and assistance in implementation and design of policies.

- **OECD Central Asia Initiative (CAI):** Co-chaired by the European Union and Kazakhstan, the CAI was launched in November 2008 and covers Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- **OECD Eastern Europe and South Caucasus Initiative (EESC):** Co-chaired by Poland and Sweden, the EESC was launched in April 2009 and covers the six countries of the EU Eastern Partnership: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.

Through both Initiatives, the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme supports the region to design and implement policies in favour of competitiveness. In particular, the Programme encourages Eurasia countries to align to OECD standards, identify policy barriers to competitiveness and support capacity building on the design and implementation of policies to improve competitiveness.

**WHAT IS OECD EURASIA WEEK?**

OECD Eurasia Week builds on the increasing involvement of countries in the Eurasia region in the work of the OECD and in several OECD platforms, networks and bodies as well as on the region’s growing importance to the members of the OECD.

During the three days, the objective is to create an opportunity to further strengthen the relations between the countries of the Eurasia region and the OECD, and to raise the visibility of the enhanced co-operation on a broad spectrum of thematic issues relevant to further improving the region’s competitiveness.

OECD Eurasia Week will be held at the OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André Pascal, 75116 Paris, France.

**WHO WILL BE THERE?**

OECD Eurasia Week will bring together high-level representatives from the Eurasia region, OECD member countries, academics, business leaders, international partner organisations, civil society and relevant experts on the thematic issues.

**BILATERAL MEETINGS**

Bilateral meetings will be organised on **Monday, 21 November 2016** at the OECD Conference Centre with the OECD Global Relations Secretariat. Additional bilateral meetings for high-level delegations from the Eurasia Region will be held upon request with other OECD Directorates. Delegations will be contacted by their Delegation Liaison Officer (DLO) upon registration to schedule the bilateral meetings. Registration is available online at [Eurasia Week Registration](#).

Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian will be provided during Eurasia Week.

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OECD EURASIA WEEK

22-24 NOVEMBER 2016

PRODUCTIVITY AND RESILIENCE IN EURASIA

MONDAY
21 November

ARRIVALS and BILATERAL MEETINGS

OFFICIAL OPENING by the OECD Secretary-General Room CC13

MINISTERIAL PANEL Productivity and Resilience in Eurasia Room CC13

REGIONAL DIALOGUE LUNCH Central Asia

STEEERING COMMITTEES of the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme Room CC6

EURASIA THEMATIC PANEL Improving Trade and Transport Connectivity Room CC6

Eurasia networking LUNCH

EURASIA THEMATIC PANEL Labour Market Resilience and Productivity Room CC6

RECEPTION Hosted by the Visegrad Group

TUESDAY
22 November

BUSINESS FORUM OPENING PANEL Improving Private Sector Development and SOEs Room CC13

OECD EURASIA BUSINESS FORUM Speed Networking for Businesses and Governments Room CC4

REGIONAL DIALOGUE LUNCH Eastern Europe & South Caucasus

EURASIA NETWORKING LUNCH

BUSINESS FORUM OPENING PANEL

WEDNESDAY
23 November

WEDNESDAY
23 November

EUROPEAN UNION

THURSDAY
24 November

EURASIA COMPETITIVENESS ROUNDTABLE Peer Reviews and Monitoring of Eurasia Countries Room CC6

JOINT SESSION Closing of Eurasia Week and Opening of the GREEN Action Programme Meeting Room CC6

EURASIA THEMATIC PANEL Improving Trade and Transport Connectivity Room CC6

EURASIA THEMATIC PANEL Peer Reviews and Monitoring of Eurasia Countries Room CC6

GREEN ACTION PROGRAMME Inaugural Meeting (by invitation only)

EURASIA THEMATIC PANEL Labour Market Resilience and Productivity Room CC6

RECEPTION Hosted by Belarus

DEPARTURES
TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2016, 9.00-12.45

9.00 - 9.30  REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

9.30 - 10.15  OECD EURASIA WEEK OPENING ADDRESS
Room CC13

REMARKS by

- Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD
- H.E. Mr. Piotr Gliński, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Culture and National Heritage of Poland
- H.E. Mr. Oleg Pankratov, Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan
- H.E. Mr. Erlan Idrissov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan
- H.E. Mr. Bakytzhan Sagintayev, Prime Minister of Kazakhstan (video message)

10.15 - 12.30  MINISTERIAL PANEL: Productivity and Resilience in Eurasia
Room CC13

In the face of recent economic shocks and increasing stresses, policymakers must address how to prepare economies to be more resilient, while at the same time making them more productive. This session will consider the challenges faced by Eurasia countries in balancing how to bounce back and jump forward at the same time.

SPEAKERS

- H.E. Mr. Piotr Gliński, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Culture and National Heritage, Poland
- H.E. Mr. Abdul Sattar Murad, Minister of Economy, Afghanistan
- H.E. Mr. Oleksandr Danyliuk, Minister of Finance, Ukraine
- Ms. Catherine L. Mann, Chief Economist, OECD
- H.E. Mr. Vladimir Zinovskiy, Minister of Economy, Belarus
- H.E. Mr. Jan Mládek, Minister of Trade and Industry, Czech Republic
- H.E. Mr. Purev Sergelen, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry, Mongolia
- H.E. Mr. Erlan Idrissov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan

MODERATOR

- Mr. Douglas Frantz, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

12.30 - 12.45  OFFICIAL PHOTO
TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2016, 13.00-14.30

(PARALLEL SESSIONS)

13.00 - 14.30
George Marshall Room

REGIONAL DIALOGUE: CENTRAL ASIA

The countries from Eurasia have expressed interest in good international policy practices to support their economic reform plans. **High-level representatives from Eurasia and OECD countries will convene in groups to exchange views on key challenges and recommendations within each region.**

Lunch will be provided during this session. **Additional seating will be available in Room E (listening room).**

**OPENING REMARKS by Ms. Gabriela Ramos**, Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20, OECD

**STATEMENT by Mr. Pierre Amilhat**, Director, DG DEVCO, European Commission

**LEAD DISCUSSANTS**

- Ms. Madina Abylkassymova, Vice Minister of National Economy, Kazakhstan
- Mr. Daniar Imanaliev, Deputy Minister of Economy, Kyrgyzstan
- Mr. Luvsandash Dashdorj, Economic Policy Advisor to the President, Mongolia
- Mr. Saidrakhmon Nazrizoda, First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Tajikistan

**MODERATOR**

- Mr. Sergei Guriev, Chief Economist, EBRD

13.00 - 14.30
Roger Ockrent Room

REGIONAL DIALOGUE: EASTERN EUROPE & SOUTH CAUCASUS

The countries from Eurasia have expressed interest in good international policy practices to support their economic reform plans. **High-level representatives from Eurasia and OECD countries will convene in groups to exchange views on key challenges and recommendations within each region.**

Lunch will be provided during this session. **Additional seating will be available in Room E (listening room).**

**OPENING REMARKS by Ms. Mari Kiviniemi**, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

**STATEMENT by Mr. Lawrence Meredith**, Director Neighbourhood East, DG NEAR, European Commission

**LEAD DISCUSSANTS**

- Ms. Yuliya Kovaliv, Head of Office of National Investment Council under the President of Ukraine
- Ms. Lilia Palii, Secretary General of the Government, Moldova
- H.E. Mr. Roman Waschuk, Ambassador of Canada to Ukraine
- Ms. Sevinj Hasanova, Deputy Minister of Economy, Azerbaijan
- Mr. Robert Grey, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

**MODERATOR**

- Mr. Dominique Menu, Senior Advisor Central Asia & CIB Country Head Ukraine, BNP Paribas
Meeting of the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme Steering Committees
(For Government representatives of Eurasia and OECD countries and partner organisations)

Mr. Andreas Schaal, Director of OECD Global Relations will present the main outcomes, activities envisaged for 2017-18, and the updated governance of the Programme.

The Central Asia Initiative Steering Committee Co-Chairs are:

- H.E. Mr. Rupert Schlegelmilch, Ambassador of the European Union to the OECD
- Ms. Madina Abylkassymova, Vice Minister of National Economy, Kazakhstan

The Eastern Europe and South Caucasus Initiative Steering Committee Co-Chairs are:

- H.E. Ms. Annika Markovic, Ambassador of Sweden to the OECD
- H.E. Mr. Aleksander Surdej, Ambassador of Poland to the OECD

The Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable Chair and Vice-chairs are:

- H.E. Mr. Pavel Rozsypal, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the OECD, Chair
- H.E. Ms. Annika Markovic, Ambassador of Sweden to the OECD, Vice-chair
- Mr. Juraj Tomáš, Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Slovak Republic to the OECD, Vice-chair

H.E. Mr. Paulo Vizeu Pinheiro, Chair of the OECD External Relations Committee and Ambassador of Portugal to the OECD will present the OECD Strategic Orientations.

Coffee
Connectivity is one of the great challenges facing Eurasian countries. It is also one of the great opportunities before them, inasmuch as they sit squarely between four large and important economic powers – Europe and China, to east and west, and Russia and India to north and south. Eurasian countries and their partners all have an interest in improving its trade and transport connectivity. This session will provide insight into the trade facilitation performance of the Eurasia and OECD countries, and discuss how policy can improve the use and efficiency of transport resources.

**SPEAKERS**

- Ms. Evdokia Moïsé, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate
- Mr. Jari Kauppila, Head of Outlook and Statistics Unit, International Transport Forum
- Ms. Zaiga Liepiņa, Deputy State Secretary for Economics, Latvia
- Mr. Myrat Arabov, Chair of the Agency for Protection from Economic Risks, Ministry of Economy and Development, Turkmenistan

**MODERATOR**

- Ms. Natasha Khanjenkova, Managing Director for Turkey and Central Asia, EBRD

Structural policies and institutions matter for labour market resilience. Not only do they mitigate the impact of economic shocks on labour market outcomes, they also moderate the impact of changes in labour earnings on household disposable income. This session will discuss the key labour market and social challenges facing the Eurasia region, and identify best practices for building inclusive labour markets.

**SPEAKERS**

- Mr. Alessandro Goglio, OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs
- Mr. Sergei Guriev, Chief Economist, EBRD
- Mr. Yelzhan Birtanov, Vice Minister of Healthcare and Social Development, Kazakhstan

**MODERATOR**

- H.E. Mr. Aleksander Surdej, Ambassador of Poland to the OECD

**RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE VISEGRAD GROUP**

*George Marshall and Roger Ockrent Rooms*
Inefficient, subsidised or otherwise favoured state-owned enterprises (SOEs) can hinder investments and crowd out private sector competition. This interactive panel will look at the sectoral presence of SOEs in Eurasian countries and address the extent to which this could impede private sector development and investment while looking closely at policy options.

**SPEAKERS**

- H.E. Ms. Lisa Kubiske, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, United States
- Mr. Christophe Fontaine, Managing Director Identity, Oberthur Technologies. President of Medef International Business Councils with Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- Ms. Irma Kavtaradze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia
- Mr. Yerlan Khairov, Vice Minister for Investments and Development, Kazakhstan

**MODERATOR**

- Mr. Hans Christiansen, Senior Economist, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Business speed-networking will provide the opportunity for meetings between high-level policy-makers of the Eurasia region and senior business executives. These meetings aim to facilitate quick exchanges of information and sharing of business needs, possibly leading to new potential business relationships.

Pre-scheduled meetings will last 15 minutes, encouraging focused discussions. Due to high demand, priority for pre-scheduled meetings will be given on a first-come basis upon registration to Eurasia Week.
The **OECD Competitiveness Roundtable** was established in 2013 as a joint platform between OECD members and Eurasia partner countries to carry out peer reviews on competitiveness reform implementation. The Roundtable is chaired by **H.E. Mr. Pavel Rozsypal, Ambassador, and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the OECD**

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### 14.30 - 14.40
**Room CC6**
- Opening remarks by the **Chair**
- Welcoming remarks by **Mr. Christos Kyriatzis**, Deputy Head of Unit, International Affairs, DG GROW, European Commission

### 14.40 - 16.00
**Room CC6**

**PEER REVIEW OF BELARUS**

**Strengthening SME Capabilities through a Sustainable Market for Business Development Services**

- Opening Statement by **H.E. Mr. Vladimir Zinovskiy**, Minister of Economy, Belarus
- Overview of key recommendations:
  - OECD Secretariat
  - **Ms. Irina Kostevich**, Deputy Minister of Economy, Belarus
- Peer Reviewer Remarks:
  - **Mr. Karel Lember**, Analyst, Economic Development Department, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia
  - **Mr. Wojciech Sudol**, Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Economic Development, Poland
- Open discussion followed by final remarks from the Government of Belarus

### 16.00 - 16.15
**Coffee**

### 16.15 - 17.45
**Room CC6**

**MONITORING OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**SME policy reforms: Access to Finance and Business Development Services**

- Opening Statement by **Ms. Lilia Palii**, Secretary General of the Government, Moldova
- Discussion of key recommendations on **Access to Finance**:
  - OECD Secretariat and **Ms. Lilia Palii**, Secretary General of the Government, Moldova
  - **Ms. Virginie Poncet**, Head of International Consulting Activities, BPI France
- Discussion of key recommendations on **Business Development Services**:
  - OECD Secretariat and **Ms. Lilia Palii**, Secretary General of the Government, Moldova
  - **Dr. Kevin Mole**, Associate Professor of Enterprise and Assistant Dean, Enterprise Research Centre, University of Warwick
- Open discussion followed by final remarks from the Government of Moldova

### 18.00 - 20.00
**George Marshall and Roger Ockrent Rooms**

**RECEPTION HOSTED BY BELARUS**
THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2016, 9.00-13.00

9.00 - 9.10 Room CC6
- Opening remarks by the Chair
- Welcoming remarks by Ms. Bérénice Muraille, Head of Sector, Development Coordination Central Asia and Mongolia, DG DEVCO, European Commission

9.10 - 10.30 Room CC6
PEER REVIEW OF MONGOLIA (Co-funded by the European Union)

Improving Access to Finance for MSMEs in Mongolia

- Opening Statement by H.E. Mr. Purev Sergelen, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry, Mongolia
- Overview of key recommendations:
  - OECD Secretariat
  - Mr. Luvsandash Dashdorj, Economic Policy Advisor to the President, Mongolia
- Peer Reviewer Remarks:
  - Mr. Vincent Di Betta, Head of International Consulting Activities, BPI France
  - Mr. Kanysh Tuleushin, Chairman of the Board of DAMU SME Agency, Kazakhstan
- Open discussion followed by final remarks from the Government of Mongolia

10.30 - 10.45 Coffee – Meet the OECD Financial Literacy Team

10.45 - 12.05 Room CC6
MONITORING OF KYRGYZSTAN (Co-funded by the European Union)

Monitoring Competitiveness Reforms in Kyrgyzstan

- Opening Statement by H.E. Mr. Oleg Pankratov, Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan
- Discussion of key recommendations on Access to Finance:
  - OECD Secretariat and Mr. Daniiar Imanaliev, Deputy Minister of Economy, Kyrgyzstan
  - Mr. Jonathan Coulter, Senior expert on agricultural finance
- Discussion of key recommendations on Human Capital:
  - OECD Secretariat and Mr. Daniiar Imanaliev, Deputy Minister of Economy, Kyrgyzstan
  - Prof. Dr. Cornelia Oertle, Director General, and Mr. Erik Swars, Head of International Relations, SFIVET, Switzerland
- Discussion of key recommendations on Investment Promotion:
  - OECD Secretariat and Mr. Daniiar Imanaliev, Deputy Minister of Economy, Kyrgyzstan
  - Mr. Necmettin Kaymaz, Chief Project Director, Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey
- Open discussion followed by final remarks by the Government of Kyrgyzstan

12.05 – 12.15 Room CC6
- Closing remarks by Ms. Bérénice Muraille, Head of Sector, Development Coordination Central Asia and Mongolia, DG DEVCO, European Commission
- Final remarks by the Chair to conclude the Roundtable

12.15 - 13.00 Room CC6
JOINT SESSION

Closing of Eurasia Week and Opening of the GREEN Action Programme Meeting

- Mr. Douglas Frantz, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
- Mr. Simon Upton, Director, OECD Environment Directorate

GREEN ACTION PROGRAMME
Inaugural Meeting in Room CC6 (upon invitation only)