



## OECD Webinar: “Public Procurement responses to the COVID-19: Lessons and experiences from countries”

**4 June 2020**  
**Virtual Meeting**

**09:30 – 09:40**      **OPENING REMARKS**

- Mr. John Ivil, Chair of the Working Party of Leading Practitioners on Public Procurement

**09:40 – 09:50**      **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

- Ms. Marzena Rogalska, Director, Directorate for Single Market for Public Administrations, DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission

**09:50 – 09:55**      **IT IS TIME TO HEAR FROM YOU: polling questions and results**

**09:55 – 10:40**      **PANEL: Innovative collaborative purchasing approaches for joining forces against the COVID-19 pandemic**

Public procurement is at the frontline of countries’ responses to the COVID-19 outbreak. The pandemic, however, has created a radically new purchasing environment with fierce competition between public buyers for the same vital products and services, serious disruptions in supply chains, unexpected market responses, price inflation as demand across the globe far exceeds supply, and higher risks for counterfeit products, to name just a few. These new challenges require adaptive policy responses and new alliances. Amongst the various immediate measures taken by countries throughout OECD and beyond, collaborative and co-operative purchasing approaches on supra-national, national and regional levels have proven to be effective to procure critical items and to join forces against the COVID-19 pandemic while avoiding sending competing messages to the market.

The panel will provide an overview of the strategies and measures taken by OECD countries, such as Ireland, Korea, Italy, Germany, New Zealand (TBC) and Australia, to respond to the extremely urgent needs of their citizens during the first phase of the

COVID-19 crisis. The panel will reflect upon the need for a more strategic use of collaborative purchasing approaches and centralisation during a worldwide pandemic. Panellists will also discuss the new experimental ways governments are engaging with the market to find innovative solutions for their needs and to mitigate risks of the disruptive supply chains.

Questions that will be discussed include:

- What have been the main challenges faced by governments in purchasing the vital products during the first phase of the COVID-19 crisis?
- What strategies and institutional responses were introduced to address these immediate challenges and therefore ensure the availability of vital health products and the continuity of public service provision?
- What are the experiences of co-ordinated and collaborative actions applied at national and regional levels during the crisis in terms of mitigating the risks associated with emergency contracting?
- Are there any examples of how to unleash the potential of engaging with industry for purchasing alternative and innovative products?
- What are the main lessons learnt in terms of co-ordination, collaboration for the post COVID-19 period?

**Panellists:**

- Ms. Karen English, Director of International Procurement and Trade, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, New Zealand (TBC)
- Mr. Paul Quinn, Government CPO and CEO, Office of Government Procurement, Ireland
- Ms. Angela Russo, Consip, Italy
- Mr. Heehoon Kang, Director of International Co-operation Division, Public Procurement Service, Korea
- Mr. Glenn Bain, Chair, Australasian Procurement and Construction Council (APCC), Australia
- Mr. Lars Ohse, Head of the Central Purchasing Body of the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany

**Moderator:**

- Ms. Erika Bozzay, Senior Policy Adviser, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

**10:40 – 11:00**

**Q&A SESSION**

The panel discussion will be followed by a Q&A session. Panellists will answer questions sent by the audience in advance of the meeting as well as questions sent to the webinar's chat and by social media throughout the event.

**11:00 – 11:05**

**KEY TAKE-AWAYS FROM THE PANEL DISCUSSION**

- Mr. John Ivil, Chair of the Working Party of Leading Practitioners on Public Procurement

**11:05 – 11:15**      **CLOSING REMARKS**

- Mr. János Bertók, Acting Director, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

## **MEETING INFORMATION**

### ***Registration***

All Delegates must complete the Zoom online registration form linked to the invitation ahead of the meeting.

### ***Meeting Location***

The meeting will be hosted using the platform for virtual meetings “Zoom”. Delegates are advised to create a Zoom account in advance. For more information and troubleshooting during the day of the event, please contact [govinfoipp@oecd.org](mailto:govinfoipp@oecd.org)

### ***Social Media***

Delegates are asked to observe Chatham House rules when using social media related to the event, and to use **#OECDprocurement** when tweeting.