State of Israel
Prime Minister's Office

Agenda

OECD-Israel Conference on Cutting Bureaucracy: Regulation and Services in Israel

28-30 June 2011, Jerusalem

Goals

- Doing business, improving public services, regulation and regulatory impact analysis, and simplification are part of the planning processes of government **to regulate better**.

- A meeting of the higher echelons of the Israeli Government with experts and those with experience from the OECD, with the goal of **learning from their experience**.

- **Exposure** to different approaches in leading countries of the world for designing strategy and formulating policy.

- **Creating a base for a unified, government-wide step to make processes more efficient and for smart regulation.**

Business, citizens and government all benefit from a dynamic process led by government to improve public services, simplify and reduce administrative burdens, and improve the regulatory environment for doing business. How governments work can make a difference. Countries with a high rate of growth and innovation benefit from better tools, processes and policies just as much as those with low productivity and fiscal constraints. OECD has been leading this agenda globally since the early 1990s. As a new member, Israel is in a position to benefit from the latest insights into the experiences of other countries, and from the forward-looking perspective of the draft OECD Recommendation on Regulatory Policy and Governance.

Target Audience

The conference is geared towards the highest levels of government: Directors General of ministries and those in key positions in the regulatory fields at the central table of the conference. In order to connect senior officials with decision makers, senior officials will be included as observers. A third day that will be devoted to topics related to regulatory impact analysis, addressed to a target audience of professional administrators.

Proposed Agenda

The agenda, with a mix of formal presentations and open (roundtable) sessions proposed for the conference, promotes learning among experts from Israel and from the OECD community. It includes presentations of the processes taking place in Israel and abroad, with scope for questioning and discussion, taking account of the rate of progress and change.

The first day of the Conference will give Israel's leaders in the effort to improve the regulatory environment for business and to improve public services an opportunity to present the government's initiatives and to ask OECD experts questions and to learn more about similar processes in other countries. A common challenge for OECD countries – and Israel is no exception – is to sustain the reform of the institutions and processes needed to manage such initiatives and deliver sustainable results. The second day will focus on the principles behind the formulation of politics and strategy. Central issues in the field will be discussed, as well as fundamental subjects of concern to the Israeli government. A lecture on this challenge will be complemented by case studies on doing business, improving services and regulatory impact analysis.

The conference will close with a session featuring Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel.

Tuesday 28 June
8:30-9:00	*Welcome, registration*
9:00-9:15	**Rafi Barak**, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Opening remarks by **Eyal Gabbay,** Director General of the Prime Minister's Office
9:15-10:15	**A Look at the World – How OECD Countries Deal with Public Governance** Regulations, simplification and public services: An introduction to the issues of the conference **Josef Konvitz**, Head of Regulatory Policy Division; **Greg Bounds**, Senior Economist (OECD)**;** **Daniel Trnka**, OECD
10:15-10:30	*Break*
10:30-12:00	**Michael Eithan**, Minister of Improvement of Government Services **Improving Public Services** Presentation of existing processes in the Israeli Government Discussion of the Israeli Improving Services team and relevant directors general who lead processes in the Government with OECD professionals: **Heiki Loot**, Estonia, Secretary of State and Head of the Government Office; **Francoise Waintrop**, France, Head of Methodology, Innovation Department, French Directorate-General for State Modernization; **Claire Charbit** (OECD)
12:00-13:00	*Lunch*
13:00-14:30	**Doing Business** Presentation of existing processes in the Israeli Government Discussion of the Israeli DB team and relevant directors general who lead processes in the Government with OECD professionals: **Haim Shani**, Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Head of the Israeli DB Committee; comments by **Eva Meiling**, Deputy Director General, Danish Commerce and Companies Agency; **Jeroen Nijland**, Head of the Regulatory Reform Group, the Netherlands and Chair of the OECD Regulatory Policy Committee; **Manuel Gerardo Flores Romero**, Senior Economist, OECD
14:30-15:00	*Break*
15:00-16:15	**Simplification: Case Studies** **Alona Sheafer Karo,** Director General of the Environmental Protection Office**; Ester Dominicini**, Director General of the National Insurance Institute of Israel; **Manuel Gerardo Flores Romero; Francoise Waintrop.**

16:15-16:30	*Break*
16:30-17:45	**Simplification: Tools and best practices – SCM and others** **Ehud Prawer**, Head of policy Planning Division, Prime Minister Office; **Jeroen Nijland**, the Netherlands, **Eva Meiling**, Denmark; **Daniel Trnka**, OECD
17:45-18:00	Closing remarks by **Haim Shani,** Director General of the Ministry of Finance

Wednesday 29 June

8:30-9:00	*Welcome*
9:00-10:15	**Prof. Yaakov Ne'eman**, Minister of Justice **Regulation: Taking Better Account of Legal, Economic and Social Impacts** Regulatory governance and growth **Avi Licht**, Deputy Attorney General (Economic and Fiscal Issues); **Prof. David Cousins**, Centre for Regulatory Studies in the Faculty of Law, Monash University, Victoria Australia, Former Commissioner, Australia Competition and Consumer Commission and Member, Australia Prices Surveillance Authority, and Director Consumer Affairs Victoria); **Greg Bounds** (OECD)
10:15-10:45	*Break*
10:45-12:15	**The Regulatory Process and the Role of RIA** Principles for implementing RIA and the outcomes of the process **Dror Strum**, former Director General anti-trust Authority, **Greg Bounds**, (OECD); **Michael Atlan**, Legal Advisor and Head of Regulatory Forum in the Ministry of Industry, Trade & Labour
12:15-13:15	*Lunch*
13:15-14:30	**Dr. Yuval Steinitz,** Minister of Finance **Making Reforms Happen – the Relations Between Ministries and Governmental Threshold** Leading Simplification processes within current formal framework **Eyal Gabbay**; **Dr. Guy Rotkopf**, Director General of the Ministry of Justice; **Heiki Loot**, Estonia

14:30-15:00	*Break*
15:00-16:15	**Institutions for Management and Delivery** Institutionalizing administration of efficiency processes **Aart de Geus**, Deputy Secretary General, OECD; **Jeroen Nijland**, Head of the Regulatory Reform Group, the Netherlands and Chair of the OECD Regulatory Policy Committee**; Josef Konvitz**, Head of Regulatory Policy Division, OECD
16:15-16:45	*Break*
16:45-18:15	**Where is Israel Headed? Roundtable of Ministerial Directors General and OECD Experts** Policy implementation – How to implement simplification policy **Aart de Geus**, Deputy Secretary General, OECD; **Heiki Loot**, Estonia; **David Cousins**, Australia; **Josef Konvitz**, Head of OECD Regulatory Policy Division **Eyal Gabbay; Haim Shani; Michael Atlan**
18:15-19:00	*Security check*
19:00-20:00	Closing Session with the **Prime Minister and Ministers**

Improving the Design and Evaluation of Regulation and the use of Regulatory Impact Analysis

The audience is comprised of officials that have responsibility for applying and enforcing regulations. The purpose of the workshop is to explore and develop ways of improving how regulations are designed and delivered.

The agenda will look at regulation from within an idealised cycle of regulatory governance. This cycle considers how evidence of a policy problem leads to a consideration of regulatory responses, which are subsequently implemented and then evaluated for their effectiveness in achieving policy goals. The evaluation of existing arrangements would then lead to refinements of the design of regulatory approaches. The stages of this cycle include both ex ante consideration of alternative approaches to regulatory intervention, as well as ex post evaluation of the performance of regulation and its enforcement – which feeds back into the design stage of rule making.

In addition it also looks at how regulators undertake their work to improve regulatory outcomes and to optimise public benefits through the efficient use of regulatory resources. This will involve looking at the operation of regulators and the application of risk based approaches to regulation.

The workshop agenda will introduce the topics of RIA and its systemic elements, as well as RIA processes and methodologies. It will also include discussion of developments in the regulatory policy field concerning inspection and enforcement, including the use of risk based approaches and evaluation practices.

The workshop format will draw from an OECD network of country officials and relate the principles of RIA and risk regulation to their practical experiences. The format will include a series of short presentations with interactive question and answer sessions from participants. The contributions of the audience will help to draw out relevant examples of good practices for discussion. The specific problems faced by regulatory administration in Israel will be brought out in the discussion. The Israeli antitrust agency and other Israeli regulators will also provide presentations.

General questions for discussion will include:

- What is the nature of the relationship between the political sphere and the technical role of the regulator? How is this taken into account in the decision making processes of the regulatory agency? How does it affect policy development?
- What are the consistent features of good regulatory practice that can be applied across various kinds of regulation: fiscal regulation (banks, insurance, stock exchange), infrastructure regulation (communications, electricity, water etc), social regulation (health and safety, standards, labour market, consumer protection.
- How can regulators demonstrate the links between good regulatory practice and beneficial social outcomes?

Learning outcomes from the workshop will include reflection on how agency processes can be developed and adapted to improve the delivery of regulatory activities and to positively influence the design of regulation. (Further learning outcomes will be identified and refined before the finalisation of the agenda).

	Agenda: Improving the Design and Evaluation of Regulation and the use of Regulatory Impact Analysis
9:00-9:15	**Overview of the workshop format and introduction to learning Michael Atlan**, Legal Advisor and Head of Regulatory Forum in the Ministry of Industry, Trade & Labour Speakers: OECD Secretariat, Israeli Officials
9:15 -10:30	**Session 1: Introduction to regulatory policy in the OECD and the Regulatory Governance Cycle** • The systemic framework for Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) • Institutional arrangements and methodological approaches for RIA • The role of cost-benefit analysis in identifying and reducing regulatory costs • The use of regulatory alternatives to improve regulatory design • The links between *ex ante* and *ex post* policy evaluation Speakers: OECD Secretariat. Discussants (whole group) **Questions:** • What is RIA? • How is RIA used in OECD to improve regulatory design and enforcement? • What tools and institutions are required to make RIA effective? • How can it be adapted to improve the work of regulators in Israel? • How do we preserve the regulator's professional and legal autonomy in the framework of high political commitment to RIA?
10:30-11:00	*Break*
11:00-13:00	**Session 2: Improving the implementation and enforcement of regulation** • Identifying the goals of regulation • Challenges to measuring and improving regulatory performance • Examples from OECD practices. • Implementation of the Hampton Principles (United Kingdom) • Coordinating a Risk Based Approach to Regulation (the Netherlands) • Applying a Better Business Regulation framework (Victoria, Australia) Speakers: OECD Secretariat and OECD country officials Discussants (whole group)

Questions

- What are the important features of a risk based approach to regulation?

- What are the challenges to organisational reform to improve regulatory performance?

- What are the lessons from OECD experience for Israel?

13:00-14:00	*Lunch*

14:00-15:30	**Session 3: Best practice regulatory approaches in Israel**

Embedding evaluation practices – Israeli regulator's experience with evaluation

Edna Harel, Head of Division, Legislation & counselling Department, Ministry of Justice; **Yael Mevorach**, Manager of Macro Economic Unit, Budget Department, Finance Ministry **Roy Rosenberg**, Deputy Chief Economist, Israel Antitrust Authority

Discussants OECD Secretariat and OECD country experts (whole group)

Questions:

- What features from agency best practice in Israeli are transferable?

- How can OECD experiences be applied?

15:30-16:00	*Break*

16:00-17:30	**Session 4: Challenges to embedding monitoring and evaluation in the culture of regulators**

- Features of regulatory evaluation

- Issues with regulatory culture change

- Developing a program for regulatory monitoring and evaluation

Speakers: OECD Secretariat, OECD country officials, Israeli officials.

Discussants (whole group)

Questions:

- How can the (Israeli govt department) develop a program for the evaluation of regulatory performance?

- What are the challenges to organisational reform to improve regulatory performance?

- What are the lessons from OECD experience for Israel?

17:30-17:45	**Wrap up**

Speakers: OECD secretariat and Israeli Officials