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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

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English/French

COUNCIL

Council

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL ON STRENGTHENING THE OECD'S GLOBAL REACH

(Adopted by the Council on 29 May 2013)

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Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960, and in particular its articles 1, 2, 5, 12 and 16;

Having regard to the Report “A strategy for outreach and enlargement” [[C\(2004\)60](#)] (Noboru Report);

Having regard to the 2007 Council Resolution on Enlargement and Enhanced Engagement [[C/MIN\(2007\)4/FINAL](#)] by which the Council invited *inter alia* the Russian Federation to begin the procedure towards accession to the OECD, and decided to “strengthen OECD co-operation with Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa through enhanced engagement programs with a view to possible membership”;

Recalling that, in 2007, the Council stated that “in light of its growing importance in the world economy, priority will be given to Southeast Asia with a view to identifying countries for possible membership” and *noting with satisfaction* the decision to establish a comprehensive Southeast Asia Programme [[C/MIN\(2013\)14](#)];

Reaffirming our resolve, set out in the 50th anniversary Vision Statement [[C/MIN\(2011\)6/FINAL](#)], to make the OECD a more effective and inclusive global policy network, including - where there is mutual benefit with countries seeking closer ties - through possible membership;

Having regard to the document “Accession to the OECD: latest developments and future actions” [[C\(2013\)6/REV3](#)] and the latest report on OECD’s Global Relations [[C/MIN\(2013\)13](#)];

Welcoming the interest expressed by a number of countries from different regions to accede to the organisation, which underscores the role of the OECD as a global and flexible network based on high standards with the goal of developing effective and innovative policy choices for governments around the world;

Recognising the need for the Organisation to remain open in order to further expand its global reach, policy impact and relevance;

Recognising the need to maintain the Organisation’s high standards and values to which it holds its Members and partners it works with;

Recognising the contribution of the Organisation to the global governance architecture;

Resolving to make concerted efforts to better integrate the most dynamic and systemically-important economies into the work of the OECD;

Recognising the need to review the Organisation’s governance arrangements, in parallel with the accession discussions, in order to further improve its effectiveness in light of its own evolution and changing global circumstances;

Reaffirming the importance of the key principles of the OECD, including the principles of mutual agreement and unanimity, and that the review of possible changes to governance arrangements of the Organisation will take into account these principles:

I. THE ORGANISATION'S GLOBAL REACH

THE COUNCIL

- i) Resolves, in line with [C/MIN\(2007\)4/FINAL](#), to continue strengthening its close co-operation with the OECD's Key Partners: Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa in order to increase their involvement in all aspects of the Organisation's work and invites the Secretary-General to continue to work to this end;
- ii) Reiterates its desire to welcome the Russian Federation as a Member of the Organisation in line with the terms, conditions and process set out in the Roadmap for the Accession of the Russian Federation to the OECD Convention [[C\(2007\)103/FINAL](#)] and invites the Secretary-General to continue to work to this end;
- iii) Invites the Secretary-General to speedily implement the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Programme and to renew efforts to integrate countries from this strategic region in the Organisation's work, including through possible membership;
- iv) Invites the Secretary-General to explore and develop recommendations to Council on how to further strengthen the regional component of the OECD's global relations, in particular with regard to Africa and Latin America, as well as MENA;

HAVING UNDERTAKEN a case-by-case, merit-based, close examination:

- v) Decides to open accession discussions within one month with Colombia and invites the Secretary-General to set out the terms, conditions and process for its accession to the OECD for subsequent consideration and adoption by Council;
- vi) Decides to open accession discussions within six months with Latvia and invites the Secretary-General to set out the terms, conditions and process for its accession to the OECD for subsequent consideration and adoption by Council;
- vii) Decides to review the situation in due course, with a view to taking a decision to open accession discussions with Costa Rica in 2015 and, in the intervening period, to work closely with it to prepare for its future accession process;
- viii) Decides to review the situation in due course, with a view to taking a decision to open accession discussions with Lithuania in 2015 and, in the intervening period, to work closely with it to prepare for its future accession process;
- ix) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the other countries whose applications were reviewed by Council that their applications for accession shall be further considered individually.

II. THE ORGANISATION'S GOVERNANCE

THE COUNCIL

- i) Agrees on the need to review the OECD's governance in the light of the potential challenges that may arise from an enlarged OECD with a more global and diverse membership;
- ii) Decides to carry out the review of the governance arrangements of the Organisation, originally foreseen to start in 2014, while maintaining OECD key principles, in order to further improve its effectiveness and strengthen its global reach, policy impact and relevance with a view to the completion of this work by the end of 2014;
- iii) Invites the Secretary-General to report on progress made in the review of the governance arrangements to the Ministerial Council Meeting in 2014.