Working Party on Biotechnology

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 24TH SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON BIOTECHNOLOGY (WPB)

To be held in Paris at the OECD Headquarters,
2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris on
19-21 November 2008 in Room CC15, starting at 09:30

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Wednesday, 19 November 2008

09:30-11:00

1. Statement by the Chairman

2. Statement by the Director of DSTI

   The Director of DSTI, Ms. S. Huttner will make a statement on issues of relevance to the WPB.

3. Adoption of the Draft Agenda

   The Secretariat will briefly summarise the proposed agenda.

4. Approval of the Summary Record of the 23rd Session of the WPB

5. Secretariat remarks

   The Secretariat will report on administrative issues and progress in a number of areas:
   - Flexibilities in Part 1 Budget
   - 2007-2008 PWB
   - 2009-2010 PWB
   - VC needs and commitments
   - In-depth Review of CSTP
   - Renewal of WPB Mandate
   - The Accession process

   The WPB is invited to note the report and agree next steps.

6. Election of the Bureau

   Under the new OECD rules of procedure, the WPB will be invited to elect their Bureau for 2009.

COFFEE BREAK 11:00 – 11:30

11:30 – 13:00 – Global Issues Discussions – Biosecurity

Speakers: Ron Atlas, University of Louisville, United States and Harvey Rubin, University of Pennsylvania, United States

LUNCH 13:00 – 14:30
14:30-18:00  (with coffee break at 16:30)

*Items for discussion and decision*

7. **Biosecurity**

*The Secretariat will present proposals for how work on Biosecurity might be taken forward in 2009-2010.*

WPB is asked to **discuss and agree** the proposal.

8. **Innovation Strategy**

*The Secretariat will present a draft roadmap setting out the means by which WPB might potentially contribute to the Innovation Strategy.*

WPB is invited to **comment.**

9. **Knowledge Markets Workshop**

*The Secretariat will present:*

- The outcome of the Workshop and plan for a report. WPB is invited to **comment** on the outcome of the Workshop and **agree** a process by which the report should be finished.

- Other work in the OECD on measurement of Knowledge transfer. WPB is invited to **discuss** how future work can exploit complementarities.

- WPB work following up on the Knowledge Markets Workshop. WPB is asked to **discuss** future work in the 2009-2010 PWB.

10. **Collaborative mechanisms**

*The Secretariat will present progress on the Steering Group’s work and on plans for 2009.*

WPB is invited to **comment.**
11. Biomedicine and Health Innovation

Mr. M. Bale (UK) will report on the recent work of the Task Force on Biomedicine and Health Innovation (TFBHI):

1. A “Synthesis report” setting out key policy messages and knowledge gaps.

The Secretariat will report on how a proposal for a Policy Brief on Health Innovation might be taken forward.

WPB is asked to comment on the Synthesis report and decide how work proposed by the Task Force should be taken forward in PWB 2009-2010.

18:15 - Cocktail invitation by the Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the OECD – George Marshall room

Thursday, 20 November 2008

09:00-18:30

Closed Session on the Accession process – OECD member country delegates only. Accession countries will be invited individually to present and discuss results of the questionnaire with OECD member countries.

09:00 – 11:00 (with coffee break at 10.30)

12. Discussion on Accession to the OECD of Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia

The WPB Chairman (G. Jimenez) will summarise the programme and aims for the day.
Overview of Implementation of WPB instruments and best practices in OECD countries and Accession candidate countries.

The Secretariat will present the results of analysis of the questionnaire responses completed by Accession candidate countries and compare these against a baseline of implementation in OECD member countries.

WPB is invited to discuss the results of the analysis and agree principal areas for discussion with accession candidate countries.

11:00 – 16:30

Discussions with Accession candidate countries.

Each of the discussions with three Accession candidate countries who are being formally assessed at this meeting will follow the same format. Delegates from the Accession country under discussion will be invited to participate in the second and third parts of the process described below (the Russian Federation and Slovenia will engage in an informal exchange of views with the WPB, see Agenda item 13e).

1. WPB member country government delegates will agree key issues for discussion.
2. The candidate country in question will provide a brief overview of how they deal with the WPB instruments and best practices in their country.
3. Discussion of key issues.
4. A brief discussion amongst member country delegates on where specific follow-up may be required.

13d 11:00 – 12:00 Discussion with Chile
12:00 – 13:00 Discussion with Estonia
13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH
14:00 – 15:00 Discussion with Israel
15:00 – 15:30 COFFEE BREAK
13e 15:30 – 16:30 Exchange of views with Russian Federation

This discussion with Russia, though not formally a part of the assessment process, will take the form of a preliminary exchange of views based on Russia’s questionnaire submission.

16:30 – 17:30 Exchange of views with Slovenia

This discussion with Slovenia, though not formally a part of the assessment process, will take the form of a preliminary exchange of views.

13f 17:30 – 18:30

Next Steps

The WPB Chairman will lead discussion on next steps in the process of assessment as well as reporting to CSTP in March 2009.
Friday, 21 November 2008
09:30-12:00 (with coffee break at 11:30)

Items for discussion and decision

13. Chairman’s Summary of the Closed Session

14. Environmental Biotechnology

The Secretariat will present a draft proposal setting out options for WPB work in this field, drawing on Japan’s non-paper presented at the 23rd Session of the WPB.

WPB is invited to discuss and agree how to move forward in 2009-2010.

15. Task Force for Industrial Biotechnology

A member of their Bureau will present the outcome of the Task Force on Industrial Biotechnology’s meeting held on 17-18 November 2008 and will present a number of items to WPB for discussion and decision. The Secretariat will present a draft report on Supply-side issues.

WPB is invited to note progress in the Task Force:

i) Discuss the draft policy report on “Supply-side Issues related to Industrial Biotechnology” and agree a process for declassification:

ii) Agree the case study on US experiences with evaluation of bio-based products as well as a process for declassification.

16. Synthetic Biology

The Secretariat will present the outcome of the Bellagio planning meeting and progress on the 2009 joint symposium with the US National Academy of Sciences and the UK Royal Society. It will also suggest some options for taking forward future work in the WPB.

WPB is invited to comment and discuss.
12:00-13:00 (with coffee break at 11:30)

**Items for discussion and decision**


The Secretariat will present a proposed final version of the draft Guidelines.

WPB is invited to discuss the draft and agree on how to take this forward as the basis for submission to the CSTP then to the OECD Council for adoption.

**LUNCH – 13:00 – 14:30**

14:30-16:00 (with coffee break at 16:00)

**Items for discussion and decision**

18. Biomarkers and Targeted Therapies

The Secretariat will present the outcome of the Workshop held on 6-7 October 2008 as well as options for follow-on work. The Secretariat will present plans for making the analytical papers widely available and for developing a policy report.

WPB is invited to comment.

19. Review of the Guidelines for the Licensing of Genetic Inventions

The Secretariat will set out options for carrying out the necessary review.

WPB is invited to agree the way forward.

20. Global Forum on the Knowledge Economy (Biotechnology)

The Secretariat will report on progress within the Global Forum and draw attention to Council’s review of the same.

WPB is invited to comment.

21. Bioeconomy 2030

The Secretariat (Mr. M. Oborne, SGE/AU) will present the conclusions of the OECD Bioeconomy 2030 project.

WPB is invited to comment on the report.
22. Report from the OECD’s Internal Co-ordination Group on Biotechnology (ICGB)

*The Secretariat will present the activities of the ICGB.*

23. Dates and location of future meetings

*The Secretariat will propose that the WPB next meets on 8-10 June 2009 and then again in February 2010.*

24. Any Other Business