Provisional annotated agenda

40th session of the Public Governance Committee
22-23 October 2009
OECD Conference Centre, Paris

This provisional agenda is submitted to the Committee for approval.

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40th session of the 
Public Governance Committee 
DRAFT AGENDA 

22-23 October 2009 
OECD Conference Centre, Paris 

Thursday, 22nd October 2009 

Morning session, 9:30-12:30 

1. 9:30-9:40 Adoption of the agenda 
   GOV/PGC/A(2009)3 
2.  Approval of the summary record of the 39th session 
   GOV/PGC/M(2009)1 
3.  Opening remarks by the Chair 
4.  9:40-9:50 Bureau elections for 2010 
5.  9:50-11:00 Renewal of the mandate of the PGC 2010-2014 
   and In-Depth Evaluation of the PGC 
   GOV/PGC(2009)5 
6.  11:00-12:30 Government at a glance – future directions 
   12:30-14:15 Lunch break 
   14:15-15:00 Launch of Government at a Glance 

Afternoon session, 15:00-18:00 

7.  15:00-17:00 Accession1 
   - Status report 
   - Formal opinions of Chile, Estonia, Slovenia 
   - Israel assessment report 
   - Q & A with Israel 
   - Closed discussion on Israel 
   GOV/PGC/ACS(2009)12 
   GOV/PGC/ACS(2009)13 
   GOV/PGC/ACS(2009)14 
   GOV/PGC/ACS(2009)15 
   GOV/PGC/ACS(2009)16 
8.  17:15-18:00 Integrity: addressing the financial crisis 
   - OECD Public Procurement Toolbox 
   - Follow up on implementing the OECD Public Procurement Principles 
   - Lobbyists, government and public trust: 
   GOV/PGC(2009)6 
   Room document 
   GOV/PGC(2009)7 

1 Please note that this session is restricted to member countries only.
Promoting integrity by self-regulation
• OECD Principles for Transparency and Integrity in Lobbying
• Revolving doors: Emerging regulatory concerns and policy solutions in the financial crisis

18:00 Cocktail

Friday, 23rd October 2009

Morning session, 9:30-12:30

9.  9:30-9:45 Observership renewals\(^2\)  GOV/PGC(2009)10

10. 9:45-10:45 Proposal for a PGC meeting at Ministerial level  GOV/PGC(2009)11


11:15-11:45 Coffee break

12. 11:45-12:30 Building a representative public service  GOV/PGC/PEM(2009)1

13. 12:30 Other business

Other documents
• GOV/PGC(2009)12 – Reforming public administration – lessons from past experience [draft report]
• GOV/PGC/SBO(2009)5/Final – Fiscal futures, institutional budget reforms, and their effects: what can be learned?
• GOV/PGC(2009)4/REV1 – Calendar of meetings
• GOV/PGC(2009)13 – Country factsheets
• GOV/PGC/RD(2009)5 – Key events and developments

\(^2\) Please note that this session is restricted to member countries only.
NOTES

Item 4. Bureau elections

1. According to the OECD rules of procedure, Committees must elect a Bureau (Chair and Vice-Chairs) for the following year at their last session of every calendar year. A letter from Ms. Roberta Santi, then Chair of the Committee, invited countries to nominate candidates. For this year’s election, the Secretariat has received the following nominations:

For Chair:
- Katju Holkeri (Finland)

For election to the Bureau:
- Carmel McGregor (Australia)

For re-election to the Bureau:
- Ilgin Atalay (Turkey)
- Bernard Blanc (France)
- Vassiliki Moustakatou (Greece)
- Koos Roest (Netherlands)
- Andreas Wegend (Germany)

Mr. Rolf Alter, Director of GOV, will take the Chair for the Bureau elections. Delegates will be invited to express their support for the candidates.

Committee action:

- Elect a Bureau for 2010.

Item 5. Renewal of the mandate for the Public Governance Committee, 2010-2014 and In-Depth Evaluation of the PGC

2. The Secretariat has revised the draft mandate that was discussed at the meeting of the Enlarged Bureau on 15 September. It is hoped that the Committee will approve a draft mandate at this session, for submission to Council in time for its meeting on 26th November. The mandate will be a starting point for the development of a programme of work for the Committee in 2011-12.

3. The mandate renewal is closely linked to the recommendations of the In-Depth Evaluation, particularly concerning the Committee’s substructure, co-ordination with the subsidiary bodies, and communication of results. The OECD’s Executive Committee will decide on whether to adopt the recommendations of the In-Depth Evaluation at its meeting on 7th October; Council will make the final decision on 22nd October. The PGC must then submit an action plan to Council by April 2010 for responding to the recommendations. As part of this action plan, the Committee should carry out a review of its substructure and its “continuing relevance”, in line with the rules of procedure concerning mandate
renewals. It is suggested that a taskforce be created to develop the action plan, which should be approved by the Committee at its April 2010 session.

**Committee action:**

- Approve the draft mandate for 2010-2014
- Create a taskforce to develop a draft action plan for responding to the recommendations of the in-depth evaluation.


4. Following the successful release of the first edition on 22 October, the Public Governance Committee is invited to discuss the future strategy for *Government at a Glance*, in particular how it can best meet the role proposed in the mandate. Geert Bouckaert of the Catholic University of Leuven will present several options based on his current work. In addition, several countries will present their current efforts to track and measure specific aspects of performance.

**Committee action:**

- Discuss and provide guidance on the strategy for the future editions of *Government at a Glance*.

**Note:** Delegates are invited to the official launch of the publication by Mr. Ángel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, and attended by the Italian Minister for Public Administration, Mr. Brunetta, to be held just after the lunch break.

**Item 7. Accession**

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5. We are nearing the end of the accession assessment process for four of the five candidate countries. By the end of the year, the majority of committees involved in the process will have submitted their formal opinions concerning Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia to Council. Thus the PGC needs to finalise its formal opinions for these three countries at this meeting.

6. The discussion of Russia is delayed due to the late receipt of its Initial Memorandum (received in June 2009). The PGC questionnaire, sent in October 2008, has not yet been completed and returned; the review of Russia is thus now planned for 2010.

7. The Committee has already seen draft formal opinions for Chile, Estonia and Slovenia, and comments were received in writing and at the meeting of the Enlarged Bureau. This Committee is therefore asked to approve these final opinions at this meeting.

8. Also at this meeting, the Committee will discuss the Accession Assessment Report for Israel, hold a question-and-answer session with the Israeli delegation, and discuss the “coherence” of Israel’s policies with those of OECD countries. Based on the discussions, a draft Formal Opinion for Israel will be prepared and posted on Olis shortly after the meeting. Countries will have three weeks to review and comment. The Formal Opinion will need to be approved by written procedure before early December.

**Committee action:**

- Approve the Formal Opinions for Chile, Estonia and Slovenia
• Discuss the Accession Assessment Report for Israel, and provide guidance for the preparation of the Formal Opinion.

**Item 8. Integrity: addressing the financial crisis**

9. Following the Global Forum on Public Governance, "Building a Cleaner World: Tools and Good Practices for Fostering a Culture of Integrity" on 4-5 May and discussions at the last session of the Committee on how to address the financial and economic crisis, the Committee will discuss a series of documents to shape its good governance contribution to the OECD’s strategy for a building stronger, cleaner and fairer world economy.

10. **Public procurement** accounts for approximately 15% of most countries’ GDP, even before the crisis. Procurement is considered the government activity most vulnerable to corruption. Ongoing stimulus programmes result in the need to quickly disburse enormous amounts of funds, increasing governance and corruption risks. The draft Toolbox provides tools for applying the *OECD Principles for Enhancing Integrity in Public Procurement*, with a specific emphasis on accelerated procurement processes. In addition, a background document highlights options for supporting countries’ efforts for implementing the OECD Principles and reporting back on progress made to the Council in 2011.

11. **Lobbying** by special interests has become a particular concern in the context of developing anti-crisis measures. First, the publication "Lobbyists, government and public trust: Increasing transparency by legislation" reviews government regulations to enhance transparency in lobbying. The Committee supported complementary work on reviewing the experience of self-regulation by lobbyists in order both to provide the full range of available solutions for decision makers and to consolidate the emerging Principles for transparency and integrity in lobbying.

12. The “revolving door” phenomenon has received specific attention in the context of the financial crisis. Following the discussions at the Global Forum and the expert Group on Conflict of Interest in May, this revised paper reviews concerns, provides data available on the extent of ‘revolving doors’ and also look at frameworks (e.g. rules, procedures, policies) in place for fostering integrity and avoiding conflict of interest to restore confidence in the financial sector.

**Committee action:**

• Discuss the draft Toolbox and how to support countries' efforts to adhere to the 2008 OECD Recommendation and report on progress made in implementing the Principles to the Council in 2011.

• Discuss the draft paper on the experience of self-regulation by lobbyists and the Principles; approve the report and provide guidance on next steps, including consultations on the Principles.

• Discuss the draft paper on 'revolving doors' in the financial sector, approve the paper and provide guidance on follow-up steps.
Item 9. Observership renewals

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13. Regular observerships are granted for a two-year renewable period. The observerships of Brazil, Chile, Slovenia and Ukraine are up for renewal at the end of this year, and the Committee must submit renewal requests to the External Relations Committee by 30 October for Brazil and Ukraine, using a prescribed evaluation template. This process does not apply to accession candidate countries Chile and Slovenia. These countries’ invitations as regular observers will be extended to the date of their respective accession or end 2010, whichever is earlier, without the usual examination. The Secretariat has prepared the necessary templates for Brazil and Ukraine, for discussion by the Committee.

14. In addition, the Committee’s agreement is sought for inviting some key non-member economies to participate in meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as ad hoc observers during 2010 (as was done for Accession countries in 2009). It should be understood that it is unlikely that all countries on the list will come to every meeting, but it will expedite the process and ease the burden on the Committee to issue a blanket approval for these countries, which include accession candidates (A) and “enhanced engagement” (EE) countries. In addition, the Committee is asked to approve the invitation of Thailand and Singapore to meetings of the Senior Budget Officials Working Party and its networks. Any ad hoc observer invitations of countries not in the list below would, in line with OECD procedure, require separate Committee approval.

- Estonia (A)
- Israel (A)
- Russia (A)
- China (EE)
- India (EE)
- Indonesia (EE)
- South Africa (EE)
- Singapore (for SBO meetings only)
- Thailand (for SBO meetings only)

Committee action:

- Discuss the evaluation of the observerships of Brazil and Ukraine, and approve a version to be submitted to the External Relations Committee.
- Agree to invite the above list of countries as ad hoc observers to meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during 2010.

Item 10. Proposal for a PGC meeting at Ministerial level

15. At its meeting in May 2009, the Committee asked the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for a Ministerial-level meeting to be held in 2010. A first draft of this proposal was discussed at the Enlarged Bureau meeting, and has been revised to reflect that discussion as well as written comments received since. In addition to determining the topic of a Ministerial meeting, countries are also invited to indicate their interest in hosting the meeting.

Committee action:

- Discuss the proposal for a meeting of the PGC at Ministerial Level.
Item 11. Innovation in public service delivery: outline of the report on “Co-design and co-delivery of public services”

16. A report on “Co-design and co-delivery of public services” will be a contribution to the cross-cutting output on “Innovation in public service delivery”. The Secretariat will present an outline of this report and its linkages to the horizontal work on innovation in service delivery.

Committee action:

- Discuss the outline and provide guidance for the report.

Item 12. Building a representative public service

17. The diversity of the public workforce is one of the three main components of the PGC’s broader study on “Building the adequate government workforce”, which looks at how to build a public workforce that is the right size to secure capacity, has the right competencies for the proper delivery of public services, and is representative of the population it serves. This work focuses on the achievements and challenges OECD countries are facing in building a representative public service while guaranteeing a proper supply of skills and competencies required for service delivery. The aim of this particular project is to locate innovative practices in the pursuit and management of workforce diversity in the public sector and to suggest some practical guidelines to assist OECD countries to enhance and make the most of a diverse workforce in the public service.

18. The findings and conclusions presented in this report [GOV/PGC/PEM(2009)1] emerge from the information provided by 14 OECD member countries: Australia, Belgium, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, and a non-member economy, Israel; and the discussions held during an expert meeting on 1 October 2009.

Committee action:

- Discuss the findings of the report and provide guidance on how to make the report more useful for OECD governments.

Item 13. Other business

19. Delegates are invited to raise any other business.