Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

AGENDA

9th ANNUAL SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS MEETING ON PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

Berlin, Germany
7-8 November 2013

The meeting is hosted by the Federal Ministry of Finance, Germany.
Chair: Christian Kastrop, Director, Federal Ministry of Finance, Germany.

For further information, please contact Ian HAWKESWORTH at OECD Headquarters
Tel. +33 1 45 24 16 32 -- Email: ian.hawkesworth@oecd.org

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9th Annual Senior Budget Officials meeting on Performance and Results
Berlin, 7-8 November 2013

How to ensure Transparency, Efficiency and Value for Money

AGENDA

Chairman: Christian Kastrop, Director, Federal Ministry of Finance, Germany

Wednesday, 6 November 2013

19:00-20:00 Welcome Reception at the Federal Ministry of Finance.

Thursday, 7 November 2013

09:30-10:00 Introduction by Chair and Secretariat.
Opening Address by Secretary of State Werner Gatzer, Federal Ministry of Finance, Germany.

10:00-11:30 Session 1: Engaging with citizens on budgeting and performance
Governments face increasing demands to find new ways to communicate complex data and policy messages to the public in easy-to-access and easy-to-understand formats, spurred in part by the often innovative ways civil society organizations and a new class of journalists are using open data, dashboards and social media to tell powerful stories and spark lively real-time debates. Moreover, a more informed and interested citizenry should in turn promote stronger engagement by parliament and policy-makers in the performance aspects of budgeting. This session will explore how governments can use the power of data visualization and social media tools to engage the public and civil society in the national debate concerning budgeting and public sector performance. The approach will be twofold: One part of the session will concentrate on new ways and tools of communicating complex policy messages and the other will be reserved for discussing practical experiences and challenges with introducing performance-oriented elements into budgetary processes.

- Key note speakers:
  Part 1: Mr. Derek Eder, Open Data Web Developer, Owner of Data Made & Co-Founder of Open City, United States.
  Part 2: Dr. Robert Heller, President of the Federal Training and Knowledge Center, former Secretary of State in Berlin and Hamburg, Germany.

11:30-11:45 Coffee Break
**Session 2: Evaluation and policy-making: How do results impact upon resource allocation and budgeting?**

Many countries have developed specialized evaluation capacity to assess the cost-effectiveness of expenditure programmes, and indeed certain types of spending and other policy interventions are subject to systematic evaluation and assessment: e.g. development assistance, EU structural funds, regulatory impact. This session will focus on the lessons that can be gleaned from these experiences, including lessons from practitioners for the design of policy interventions, and for the relationships and processes that are needed if these analyses are to feed fruitfully into the policy-making process and subsequently have impact on the ground.

- 2 case studies:
  - Ms. Paula Darville, Head of Management Control Division, Ministry of Finance, Chile.
  - Dr. Hideaki Tanaka, Professor, Governance Studies, Meiji University, Japan.
  - Ms. Christiane Arndt, Programme Co-ordinator, Measuring Regulatory Performance, OECD.

**13:15-14:15** Lunch Break

**14:15-16:00 Session 3a: The evolving role of performance and results**

Delegates will be invited to participate in four diverse breakout sessions. The purpose is to stimulate focused debate in a smaller setting. The Chair/Rapporteur of each session will be chosen in advance. He/she will make a short introduction to the topic.

Chairman’s /OECD Secretariat’s introduction to the session and key questions that every group should answer.

- **Discussion group 1: Big political challenges -- what role for performance information?** How can central, government-wide political challenges (such as demographic change and climate change) be addressed in a performance and results framework? [led by Dr. Christian Kastrop, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Finance, Germany].

- **Discussion group 2: Performance information: what has it been good for?** The use of performance information in the budget process has been evolving over many years. This session aims to identify what impacts this had had for financial, non-financial and managerial accountability. [led by Dr. Peter Van den Berg, Director of Budget Affairs & Deputy Director General of Budget, Ministry of Finance, Netherlands].

- **Discussion group 3: Governing from afar: performance budgeting and relations across levels of government.** In most OECD countries welfare legislation and other sectoral policies are mandated in national legislation, but partly implemented at sub-national level. These mandates are usually linked to various forms of funding from the central government. It can, however, be difficult for central government to assess the degree to which the programs are being implemented successfully. This group will focus on what role performance information plays in various central administrations and what lessons can be learned for the future. [led by Mr. Antti Moisio, Research Director, Government Institute for Economic Research VATT, Finland].
Session 3a: The evolving role of performance and results ... Cont’d.../

Discussion group 4: How can IT processes facilitate – or transform – the effective use of performance information in the budget process? Have IT systems added value by linking the budget process to specific government performance? What has worked and what has not? Is it possible to see the contours of the future? [led by Mr. Trolle Klitgård Andersen, Deputy Director General, Agency for Government Modernization, Denmark].

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-17:30 Session 3b: The evolving role of performance and results

Results of the discussions in session 3a will be presented.
Discussant of results: Dr. Nowook Park, Head, Korea Institute for Public Finance, Korea.

17:45-18:45 Transfer to the Reichstag Building / including Bus-Sightseeing-Tour.

18:45-19:15 Security check – Passports are required.

19:30-22:00 Dinner at the Reichstag Restaurant, visit to the roof terrace and dome.
Dinner speech by Dr. Ulrich Nußbaum, Finance Minister of the City State of Berlin.
Friday, 8 November 2013

9:30-11:00  
**Session 4: The use of national and international outcome benchmarks in driving policy. Adding value or distorting incentives?**

Policy outcomes are notoriously difficult to measure and attribute. However, there are examples of outcome measurements that are comparable across countries and have impact on policy such as the PISA measurements of primary student abilities, the World Bank’s ‘doing business’ index and health measures such as infant mortality, life expectancy. This session asks what value these measures have and whether further standardized measures – both nationally and internationally – can enhance the focus on quality and results.

- Lead presentation by Prof. Dr. Michael Thoene, FiFo Institute for Public Economics, Cologne, Germany.
- One OECD senior manager and one country official reflecting on the impact of high level measures:
  - Ms. Zsuzsanna Lonti, Senior Program Manager, Government at a Glance, OECD.
  - Mr. Chris Mullin, General Expenditure Policy, HM Treasury, United Kingdom.

11:00-11:30  
Coffee Break

11:30-13:00  
**Session 5: The OECD Value for Money project**

Guest chair: Dr. Peter Van den Berg, Netherlands

The OECD Value for Money Project has collected data from 15 countries on the resources devoted to the key government functions and conducted case studies of Australia, Denmark, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden. This session will present the synthesis report of the Value for Money project. It will pinpoint key reforms that have led to substantial savings in areas such as ministry-executive agency relations, shared services, central IT systems, centralising HRM standards, the use of performance information.

- Lead presentation by Mr. Dirk-Jan Kraan, (formerly) OECD Secretariat, Value for Money Project Leader.
- Value for Money Project team members to provide comments:
  - Dr. Joachim Wehner, Lecturer, London School of Economics.
  - Ms. Valentina Kostyleva, independent consultant.
- 2 country participants reactions:
  - Mr. Pål Ulla, Deputy Budget Director, Ministry of Finance, Norway.
  - Ms. Charlotta Eriksson, Budget Department, Ministry of Finance, Sweden.

13:00-13:45  
**Session 6: Wrap-up session**

- Proposed new OECD Principles on Public Budgeting.
- Future Work, Discussion.
- Concluding remarks by Chairman and Secretariat.

13:45-15:00  
Lunch hosted by Mr. Ludger Schuknecht, Director General of the Fiscal and Macroeconomic Affairs Department of the German Ministry of Finance.
GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

1. Meeting Location

The meeting will take place at the Federal Ministry of Finance (Bundesministerium der Finanzen), Wilhelmstraße 97, 10117 Berlin.

2. Registration

All Delegates need to complete the registration form and return it to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting. Entry passes can only be issued to the registered Delegates.

Delegates should bring their passport or ID-card at the conference venue. A proof of identity will be needed at the entrance of the ministry as well as at the entrance of the Reichstag.

As spouses are welcome to join the social events, we would need a registration along the attached form as well.

3. Documentation

Background documents will be available for all substantive sessions of the meeting. The documents will be distributed electronically to all registered Delegates prior to the meeting.

4. Simultaneous translation

Simultaneous translation between English, French and German will be available throughout the meeting.

5. Accommodation

Participants are kindly asked to make their own hotel reservations and cover their own cost of travel and accommodation.

The German authorities have negotiated special rates in the 3 hotels below.

To benefit from these rates, please contact the hotel prior to the deadline indicated, providing the reservation key-word: “OECD Berlin”.

6
### Transportation

The hotels indicated above are located in walking distance from the Federal Ministry of Finance. The hotels and the conference venue can be reached from Berlin Tegel Airport by taxi in about 40 minutes (35 € approx.). Local taxi call: ++49 (0)30 19 410.

Several bus connections provide public transport from the airport, with multiple opportunities to change to the S- and U-Bahn system, including at Zoologischer Garten or at Hauptbahnhof. Participants who would like to use public transport are advised to check timetables in advance at [http://www.fahrinfo-berlin.de/](http://www.fahrinfo-berlin.de/) (available in English) or to contact the airport information desk.

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#### NH-Berlin-Mitte

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7. **Hospitality**

The German authorities invite all Delegates to a **Welcome reception** at 19:00 on the eve of the meeting (Wednesday, 6 November 2013) at the Federal Ministry of Finance.

The German authorities invite all Delegates to a **bus sightseeing** and **dinner** at the Reichstag. (Thursday, 7 November). Buses will leave at 17:45 from the Ministry of Finance.

Spouses are welcome to join Delegates at the above social events.

Please confirm your attendance at these events by completing the appropriate “Social Activities” boxes on the attached registration form.

All Delegates are also invited to luncheons on both days of the meeting. These will take place at the Federal Ministry of Finance.

8. **Visa / Entry regulation**

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own visas if required and are advised to check with the German Consulate or Embassy in their respective country when planning their travel to Berlin. General information can be found at:

[www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/Visabestimmungen_node.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/Visabestimmungen_node.html)
9. **General Information on Germany**

Time zone: Central European Time (UTC +1)

Language: German. Most people speak basic English.

Currency: Euro (EUR/€) and Cent (Ct; 100 Ct = 1 €). For exchange rates, please check the European Central Bank website: [http://www.ecb.int/stats/exchange](http://www.ecb.int/stats/exchange)

Climate: Moderate climate zone. Average temperature in November: 5-10° Celsius. It is advisable to bring an umbrella or a rain coat.

Smoking: Smoking is not allowed in any public buildings, including in hotels and restaurants.

Dialing Codes: International Country Code for Germany: +49. Area code for Berlin: (0)30

Power voltage: 230 V, 50 Hz. Most common power outlets are designed for two-pin Europlugs (German style CEE7/4 Schuko, see [www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schuko](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schuko)).