Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

15th Annual Meeting of the OECD Network of Central, Eastern, & South Eastern European Senior Budget Officials (CESEE SBO)

ANNOTATED AGENDA

4-5 July 2019
Minsk, Republic of Belarus

The meeting is kindly hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus and chaired by Niels Kastelein, Deputy Director of Budget, Ministry of Finance, Netherlands.

It will be held at the State Educational Institution “Centre for Advanced Studies of Executives and Specialists of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus” located at Pugachevskaya street, 6, Minsk 220005 Belarus

For further information, please contact Ms. Jungmin Park (jungmin.park@oecd.org)
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15th Annual Meeting of the OECD Regional Network of CENTRAL, EASTERN & SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPEAN SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS (CESEE SBO)

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Wednesday, 3 July

18:00 Welcome Reception at Renaissance Minsk Hotel located Dzerzhinsky Avenue 1 E, Minsk, HM 220036, Belarus.

Thursday, 4 July 2019

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and collection of badges

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome address by Mr. Yury Seliverstov, First Deputy Minister of Finance, Belarus, Welcome Remarks by Chair and OECD Secretariat and Delegates’ Introductions

9:15 – 10:00 SESSION 1 – Budgeting in Belarus

The Republic of Belarus is currently carrying out large-scale budgeting reforms under the Government Strategy for reforming public financial management adopted in 2015. The Ministry of Finance will present an overview of Belarus’ system of budgeting and public expenditure management, highlighting fiscal policy challenges and recent reforms. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

Presenter:
- Elena Pechan, Head of Budget Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, the Republic of Belarus

10:00 – 11:00 SESSION 2 – Targeted Budget Review of the Slovak Republic

The OECD Secretariat will present the recently completed OECD Targeted Review of the Slovak Budget Framework. The objective of this review was to assist the Slovak government to improve on the governance tools and frameworks in place for setting national developmental priorities, with stable investment planning and resourcing for sustainable economic growth. An OECD presentation will be followed by a presentation by the Slovak Republic on budget frameworks for delivering improved outcomes. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

Presenters:
- Matej Kurian, Director of Department, Value for Money Department, Ministry of Finance, Slovak Republic and Peter Mandzak, Analyst, Value for Money Department, Ministry of Finance, Slovak Republic
- Andrew Blazey, Deputy Head, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD

11:00-11:30 Family Photo and Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:00 SESSION 3 – Spending Reviews

OECD countries are increasingly using spending reviews as a strategic budgeting tool. As the number of countries conducting spending reviews increases, so too has the diversity of the reviews. This session will provide an opportunity for countries to reflect on the different methodologies of spending reviews and the factors that have facilitated their effectiveness, implementation and integration in the budgeting process. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

Presenters:
- Wojciech Zielinski, Senior Policy Analyst, Reform of the Public sector Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD
- Naida Čaršimanović Vukotić, Public Finance Management Consultant, BCOP Resource Team, World Bank
- Pádraic Reidy, Economist, Department of Public Expenditure & Reform, Ireland

13:00 - 14:00 Luncheon hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus

14:00 – 15:30 SESSION 4 – Performance Budgeting: developing key performance indicators

Most OECD countries have adopted performance budgeting and have periodically refined their approaches. This session will look at the results of 2018 OECD Performance Budgeting Survey and examine how to identify and develop relevant performance indicators as part of the budget process to evaluate how effectively the government has achieved its goals. In addition, the OECD Secretariat will introduce its new good practices in performance budgeting. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

Presenters:
- Wojciech Zielinski, Senior Policy Analyst, Reform of the Public sector Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD
- Andreas Fraydenegg, Senior Adviser, Federal Ministry of Finance, Austria
- Igor Yaremenko, Deputy Head of Department, Performance Planning and Efficiency of Budget Expenditures Department, Ministry of Finance, Russian Federation

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:00 SESSION 5 – Parallel Sessions: Putting it into practice – developing the implementation of performance budgeting

Delegates will separate into two groups and discuss how to develop key performance indicators on the implementation of performance budgeting and how to strength a linkage between the performance information and budget processes. The two groups will seek to identify practical messages for the international community of budget practitioners.

**Group A – How to develop KPIs:** Drawing on previous discussions and referring to relevant key performance indicators, Delegates will discuss approaches to develop key performance indicators. They will also examine the opportunities and constraints to set up key performance indicators and the best practices in their own countries.

**Facilitator:** Naida Čaršimanović Vukotić, Public Finance Management Consultant, BCOP Resource Team, World Bank
Group B – Strengthening the linkage between performance information and the budget process: A common motivation for introducing a performance budgeting is to strengthen the alignment between the budget and the government’s policy priorities. In this context, Delegates will discuss how they can better integrate or link performance information to the budget process, such as for re-allocating resources or increasing expenditure efficiency.

Facilitator: Jovana Koloski, Program Facilitator, Centre of Excellence in Finance (CEF), Slovenia

17:00 – 17:30 Report-back from parallel sessions

Rapporteurs:
- **Group A:** Alexandra Hrstkova, referent, State Budget Department, Ministry of Finance, Czech Republic
- **Group B:** Ivan Rakovskiy, Deputy Head of Unit, Efficiency of Budget Expenditures Unit of Performance Planning and Efficiency of Budget Expenditures Department, Ministry of Finance, Russian Federation

19:00 Visit to the old part of Minsk & Gala dinner hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus
Friday, 5 July 2019

9:00-10:00  SESSION 6 – Budgeting in Bulgaria – Peer Review

This session will examine the OECD’s Budget Review of Bulgaria. The review provides an overview of the modernising Bulgaria’s budget framework, taking stock of reforms with reference to the OECD’s ten principles on budgetary governance. Following an introductory presentation by the OECD Secretariat and Bulgaria, the session will include observations from lead peer examiners. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

**Presenters:**
- Emil Nurgaliev, Chief Expert, Budget Methodology Directorate, Ministry of Finance, Bulgaria
- Jungmin Park, Senior policy analyst, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD

**Lead peer reviewers:**
- Raili Truup, Project Lead of Performance Based Budgeting, Ministry of Finance, Estonia
- Katarina Brozić Puček, Head of Strategic Planning Service, Ministry of Finance, Croatia

10:00-10:30  Coffee break

10:30-12:00  SESSION 7 – Fiscal risks management

Most OECD countries have taken steps to improve their frameworks for fiscal risk identification, measurement and management. In this session, the OECD Secretariat will present different types of fiscal risks, from contingent liabilities linked to natural disasters to demographic-related risks in health care and entitlement expenditures. Following country presentations on how to identify and manage fiscal risks, delegates will be asked to comment on successful practices and further plans in their own countries.

**Presenters:**
- Andrew Blazey, Deputy Head, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD
- Robert Chote, Chairman, Office for Budget Responsibility, United Kingdom
- Krista Belija, Senior Expert, Budget Policy Development Department, Ministry of Finance, Latvia

12:00-13:00  Luncheon hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus
13:00-14:30  SESSION 8 – Capital Budgeting

This session will look at the Infrastructure Governance Framework and the identification of indicators for good infrastructure governance. Getting infrastructure investment decisions right requires various dimensions such as appropriate budgeting frameworks, staff capacities, proper delivery and financing tools. Following the OECD Secretariat presentation, specific approaches in selected countries will be presented. The floor will then be opened for general discussion.

**Presenters:**
- **Andrew Blazey**, Deputy Head, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD
- **Iryna Shcherbyna**, Senior Public Sector Specialist, BCOP Resource Team, World Bank
- **Brian Finn**, Senior Policy analyst, Support for Improvement in Governance and Management Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD

14:30 – 15:00  Report on Relevant Activities and Future Work

This session is designed to update participants on current and future projects by the OECD. The OECD Secretariat will provide a report on relevant activities since the last meeting of the CESEE SBO. It will also highlight the activities of the Working Party of Senior Budget Officials and each of the SBO subsidiary bodies.

Delegates will then be asked to identify future work priorities for the OECD’s Programme of Work in the area of budgeting and public expenditures, and indicate their interest in particular studies.

**Presenter:**
- **Andrew Blazey**, Deputy Head, Budgeting and Public Expenditures Division, Directorate for Public Governance, OECD

15:00  Closing by Chairman and OECD Secretariat
MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting Location
The meeting will take place at the State Educational Institution “Centre for Advanced Studies of Executives and Specialists of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus” located at Pugachevskaya street, 6 Minsk 220005 Belarus.

Transportation from the hotel to meeting venue will be organized by the Ministry of Finance.

Accommodation
The Ministry of Finance has made arrangements with special rates at the Renaissance Minsk Hotel, Dzerzhinsky Avenue 1 E Minsk 220036, Belarus.

Rooms are limited and rates are subject to availability at the time of booking. Credit/debit card details will be required to confirm your booking.

Please contact the hotel directly, using the link: https://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=OECD%20meeting%20July%2C%204-%205%20(D%20mi%208%20DF8DF8A%60110%60USD%60false%602%60607%3/19%606/19%606/14/19&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes
(“OECD meeting July, 4-5 (Start date: 03/07/19, End date: 06/07/19, Last day to book at special rate: 14-June-2019”) )

Registration Form
All Delegates must complete the registration form and return it to Ms. Hélène Leconte-Lucas, OECD Secretariat: helene.leconte-lucas@oecd.org

Entry Formalities
Delegates are advised to confirm and process any necessary visa requirements for entry in Belarus.

Entry Passes
Meeting badges can only be issued to registered delegates. For security reasons, delegates are requested to wear their badges visibly throughout the entire meeting and during related events. Each delegate should also carry personal identification at all times.

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.

Interpretation
Simultaneous interpretation into English and Russian will be provided in the plenary room only. It will not be provided at “Group A” breakout session.
Social Programme

**Wednesday, 3 July - Welcome Reception**

All Delegates are invited to a **Welcome Reception** on 3 July at **18:00** at **Renaissance Minsk Hotel** located Dzerzhinsky Avenue 1 E, Minsk, HM 220036, Belarus.

**Thursday, 4 July – Social programme and dinner**

Following the conclusion of the first day of the meeting, all Delegates are invited to a **visit to the old part of Minsk and to a dinner at 19:00 at restaurant «Belarus»** (Minsk, 15 Storozhevskaya street, 22th floor). Dress code is business casual.