

Unclassified

GOV/PGC/MPM/A(2013)1/REV1

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

26-Nov-2013

English - Or. English

**PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

GOV/PGC/MPM/A(2013)1/REV1
Unclassified

AGENDA

Recovering public trust in challenging times through a strategic state

**32nd meeting of the Network of Senior Officials from Centres of Government
23-25 October 2013
Santiago, Chile**

Mr. Andrew Davies, Senior Counsellor, andrew.davies@oecd.org; Ms. Andrea Uhrhammer, Liaison Officer, andrea.uhrhammer@oecd.org

JT03349258

Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

English - Or. English

AGENDA

32nd Meeting of Senior Officials from Centres of Government (CoG): Recovering public trust in challenging times through a strategic state

23-25 October 2013

Palacio de La Moneda, Santiago, Chile

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013

19:00-20:30 **Welcome Reception**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013

9:00-10:00 **Opening of the meeting**

- Chair, Cristián Larroulet, Minister, Secretary General to the Presidency
- OECD Secretary General, Ángel Gurría
- President of Chile, Sebastián Piñera

10:30-13:00 **Session One: Strategic management of the state in challenging times**

Governments across the OECD area and beyond are seeking a path to strong, inclusive and sustainable growth and ways to restore confidence in markets, governments and institutions. These clear but ambitious objectives can only be achieved if governments provide strong leadership and develop clear policies. This session will allow senior CoG officials to exchange views on the main challenges they face and how their governments are responding, including the role of the centre in ensuring decisive and coherent policymaking.

Questions for discussion:

- What do you see as the key policy challenges for the coming 12 months?
- What has the crisis taught us about our economic, monetary and fiscal policy levers? Has the crisis brought a new public policy paradigm? If so, what should be the policy mix?
- How do you prioritise strategic reflection in a context of continuing economic and social pressure? Are longer-term challenges being crowded out? Would a more explicit exchange on long term thinking/strategic foresight help?

13:15-14:45 **Lunch**

15:00-17:30

Session Two: Building trust and confidence in government institutions

In a context of economic uncertainty in many countries, demands from citizens and business are high, but confidence that government can deliver is low. Without trust in government, public support for ambitious policies is difficult to mobilise, particularly where short-term sacrifices are involved and long-term gains are less tangible. Considering its central role of coordination and communication, the centre of government can play an important role in rebuilding confidence in public institutions, promoting transparency and accountability, and engaging effectively with citizens (notably via social media). This session will discuss what governments can do to maintain or restore trust, and how the centre can help drive these efforts.

Questions for discussion:

- How important is monitoring trust and confidence? What methods do you use? Who uses the results?
- What steps are you taking to address problems of trust? Is there a specific strategy on trust?
- Are issues of trust viewed in the same way across OECD countries and globally? What about trust in society as a whole?
- How can OECD support efforts to rebuild trust?

19:30-21:30

Official Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013

9:30-11:30

Session Three: Building better centres of government

In response to economic, social and political pressures, centres of government are expected to fulfill their traditional role of serving the head of government and cabinet, but also to engage much more widely across government and with other institutions. The centre is expected to lead ever more complex policy agendas and coordinate responses from a whole-of-government perspective. The centre also plays a role in driving reform of the public sector, and works with ministries of finance to monitor spending and outcomes. In this session, lessons learned from different approaches to structuring the centre of government and to improving the decision-making process will be reviewed.

Questions for discussion:

- What are the key challenges for the CoG in terms of organization, resources and structure? Is more, better? Can a leaner CoG deliver better results or does small mean less important?
- Are CoGs adaptable to dynamic new situations? Should they be more flexible? What do you see as the main innovations that have been successfully implemented to strengthen the CoGs “response capacity”?
- How can the strategic functions be improved (good practice in whole of government foresight, better use of international horizon scanning systems, more dedicated resources)?
- How can policy coordination be improved to help the CoG lead complex policy initiatives more effectively? Where are the bottlenecks?
- How can OECD follow up on the survey and/or provide specific support to CoGs (e.g., peer reviews, more analysis)?

11:50-12:30

Wrap up and closing remarks by the Chair

12:45-16:00

Lunch