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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
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English - Or. English

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

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

**OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS NETWORK ON PERFORMANCE & RESULTS
7th ANNUAL MEETING**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**OECD Conference Centre, Paris
9-10 November 2011**

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**7TH ANNUAL MEETING OF OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS
NETWORK ON PERFORMANCE & RESULTS**

OECD Conference Centre, Paris, 9-10 November 2011

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

9 November 2011

09:30 – 9:45 **Introduction by Chair and Secretariat**

09:45 – 11:30 ***Session 1: Strategies for the use of spending reviews for fiscal consolidation and improved government performance***

Most OECD countries have set ambitious deficit reduction targets in order to respond to the global financial crisis. In many cases, however, governments have yet to detail the measures for attaining these ambitious goals. Spending reviews are one approach that countries have used to help prioritize government activities, identify potential areas for savings and/or reallocation, and create consensus on fiscal consolidation.

What have been the circumstances that have enabled successful spending reviews? Do particular objectives (*e.g.* cost cutting v. reinvestment, efficiency v. prioritization) necessitate different approaches, leadership and scope of reviews? What have been the findings of major country reviews and what are some of the lessons learned?

Presentations by:

- **OECD Secretariat** will present a proposed taxonomy of spending reviews
- **David Enns**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Expenditure Management, Canada: Lessons from strategic review process
- **Peter van den Berg**, Director, Budget Affairs, Deputy Director General of the Budget, Ministry of Finance, **Netherlands**
- **Pauliina Pekonen**, Budget Secretary, Ministry of Finance, **Finland**: Lessons from the Finnish Productivity programme

11:30 – 12:00 *Coffee Break*

12:00 – 13:00 **Session 1 .../Continued...: *Implementation of spending reviews***

The success of spending reviews depends on their implementation and use, and in particular on whether the processes and conditions in place are adapted to the objectives of the review. How can countries ensure that spending reviews result in budget or staff reallocation? And that they sufficiently aligned with existing strategic planning and budgetary decision making processes? Must spending reviews be government-wide and mandatory in order to allow prioritisation across programme areas? Or is it sufficient to have a strong methodological base and guidance? How do countries ensure line ministry capacity to provide the necessary data and analysis to support the process and ownership of the results by relevant stakeholders? What other preconditions are necessary in order for spending reviews to be effective?

Presentations by:

- **H.E. Chris Barrett**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of **Australia** to the OECD: Spending and strategic reviews
- **Julien Dubertret**, Budget Director, Ministry of Budget, Public Accounts and Civil Administration, **France**: Fiscal aspects of the *Révision Générale des Politiques Publiques*

13:00 – 14:30 *No host lunch*

14:30 – 16:30 **Session 2: *Roundtable discussion – The changing role of performance information in management and budget***

As countries look to their past experience with performance management, where has performance information been of the most practical use? And what has been necessary to ensure usable results? Participants in this roundtable discussion will be invited to address three principle discussion questions:

- What is the value of performance information for allocation: At the central level? At the line ministry level?
- What is the value of performance information for policy & management initiatives and for increasing government transparency: At the central level? At the line ministry level?
- For each use of performance information discussed, what needs to be centralized (metadata, guidance, training, leadership, tracking, indicator development), and what can be left decentralized?

Presentation by:

- **OECD Secretariat** will present on recent public governance trends and the use of performance information

Roundtable discussion:

- **Jonas Jarefors**, Deputy Director, Division for State Administration, Ministry for Health and Social Affairs, **Sweden**
- **Åsa Leander**, Deputy Director, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, **Sweden**
- **Niels Refslund**, Chief Advisor, Danish Agency for Governmental Management, Ministry of Finance, **Denmark**
- **Peter van den Berg**, Director, Budget Affairs, Deputy Director General of the Budget, Ministry of Finance, **Netherlands**

16:30 – 17:00 *Coffee break*

17:00 – 18:00 **Session 3: OECD Budgeting Database – draft questionnaire on performance budgeting**

The questionnaire that supports the OECD International Budget Practices and Procedures Database was last administered in 2007. In order to update the Database the questionnaire has been updated and the section regarding performance information will be presented to the Network for discussion and comment.

Presentation by:

- **OECD Secretariat** will make a presentation on draft questions concerning performance information in the budgeting process
- **Comments from pilot countries**

18:00 *Cocktail Reception (all participants are invited) – Marshall Room*

10 November 2011

9:30 – 10:30 **Session 4: *Progress reports on development of performance management systems in member countries***

Presentation by:

- **OECD secretariat:** Overview of Performance Budgeting in Poland

Comments:

- **Kadri Jogiste**, Head of Budgeting Methodology and Development Department, Ministry of Finance, **Estonia**
- **Franc Radman**, Undersecretary, Budget Department, Ministry of Finance, **Slovenia**
- **Marta Postula**, Director, Department of Public Finance Reform, Ministry of Finance, **Poland**

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 13:00 **Session 5: *Making performance information public: use it or useless?***

In many OECD countries the annual budget documentation contains many performance measures and targets. This material is resource intensive to produce and adds complexity to an already very technical document.

One argument for this is that parliamentarians need this information to scrutinise and influence the coming year's budget, and that citizens and CSOs demand budget transparency and accountability. However, critics argue that in effect this performance information is not used and that a plethora of detailed indicators does not equal accountability.

This session will discuss the performance information made available to parliaments and to the public as part of the budget preparation process. What forms of performance information (both content and presentation) are most useful for improving government accountability and transparency? How can countries increase the level of scrutiny and the likelihood that performance information will actually be used or improved upon?

Presentations by:

- **Elliott Ball**, Performance and Reform Unit, HM Treasury, **United Kingdom**
- **Andrew Gravener**, Parliamentary Scrutiny Unit, **United Kingdom**
- **David Enns**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Expenditure Management, **Canada**
- **Kevin Page**, Parliamentary Budget Officer, Parliament of Canada, **Canada**
- **Ingvar Mattsson**, Head of Secretariat, Finance Committee, Swedish Parliament, **Sweden**

Concluding remarks by Chair

7TH ANNUAL MEETING OF OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS NETWORK ON PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

Background

OECD Senior Budget Officials (SBO) Network on Performance and Results

The working party of Senior Budget Officials (SBO) established performance-based budgeting and management as one of the key areas for SBO-related work. Accordingly, a network of experts on performance and results has been established to encourage the exchange of ideas among member countries and to gather information for its programme of work which examines the different approaches adopted by OECD member countries to performance-based budgeting and management. The network aims to produce papers and reports that will provide practical guidance to countries on the opportunities and limitations of this approach. This is the 7th annual meeting of the network.

Recent Activities and Outputs of the Network

The following papers have been presented to previous meetings of the network and subsequently published:

- *Performance Budgeting: A Users' Guide*, Policy Brief, 2008
- *Performance Budgeting in OECD Countries*, OECD, Paris, 2007
- Performance Information in the Budget Process: Results of the OECD 2005 Questionnaire, *OECD Journal on Budgeting* Volume 5, no.2
- Government for Performance: Lessons and Challenges, *OECD Journal on Budgeting* Volume 5, n°1.
- Using Performance Information for Managing and Budgeting: Challenges, Lessons and Opportunities [GOV/PGC/SBO(2005)3].

Meeting information

Format of discussions

For each session at the meeting there will be three country presentations (about 20 minutes each), followed by an open discussion among all participants.

Participants

The participants at the meeting will be high-level government experts from OECD member countries.

Registration Form

All Delegates need to complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting.

Meeting Location

The meeting will take place at the OECD Headquarters – *Château de la Muette* – which is located at: 2, rue André Pascal in the 16th *arrondissement* (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “*La Muette*”. (www.oecd.org/conferencecentre).

Security

Please be advised that OECD Headquarters is a secure complex. Entry passes can only be issued to registered Delegates, and a passport or national identity card needs to be presented in order to receive an entry pass. Delegates will also be required to clear an airport-style security checkpoint for entry. Please allow 15 minutes to complete these formalities.

Simultaneous Translation

Simultaneous translation between English and French, the OECD’s two official languages, will be available throughout the meeting.

Accommodations

Delegates will need to book their own accommodation.

Wi-Fi Internet Access and Business Center

The OECD Conference Center features complimentary Wi-Fi Internet Access throughout its facilities. Internet access is available in the *Expresso Café*. There is also a Business Center located in the Conference Center offering complimentary desktop computers with standard Microsoft Office software, Internet connections and printers.



**7th Meeting of OECD Senior Budget Officials Network on Performance & Results
Paris, 9-10 November 2011**

~~~ REGISTRATION FORM ~~~

Please return the completed form to: helene.leconte-lucas@oecd.org

Fax: +33 1 44 30 63 34

Ms Mrs Mr

NAME (in block letters please)

First Name

JOB TITLE

ORGANISATION

MAILING ADDRESS

COUNTRY

TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE

E-MAIL ADDRESS