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

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English - Or. English

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

**Working Party of Senior Budget Officials**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA AND REGISTRATION FORM**

**12th ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM**

**OECD Conference Centre, Paris  
8-9 March 2012**

*Chairman: Mr. Michel Prada, President, Public Sector Accounting Standards Council (Conseil de normalisation des comptes publics), France.*

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**12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM**  
**OECD Conference Centre, Paris, 8-9 March 2012**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA AND REGISTRATION FORM**

**Thursday, 8 March 2012**

**9:30-9:45**      **Opening by Chairman and OECD Secretariat  
Delegates' Introductions**

**9:45-10:15**      **Report by International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB)**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). It will provide a progress report on the Board's on-going work on promulgating standards and discuss the Board's overall strategy and work programme.

Following a lead presentation by IPSASB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

**10:15-10:45**      **Report by International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and their implications for the public sector.

Following a lead presentation by IASB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

**10:45-11:15**      **Report by Statistics Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to Government Finance Statistics (GFS). It will also discuss divergences between national accounting and financial accounting and their implications.

Following a lead presentation by the IMF, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

*11:15-11:45*      *Coffee Break*

**11:45-12:15**      **Report by Statistical Office of the European Commission (EUROSTAT)**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to the European System of Accounts (ESA). It will provide a progress report on their on-going and future work on promulgating regulations on national accounting in Europe.

Following a lead presentation by EUROSTAT, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

**12:15-13:00 Reports by Accounting Standard-Setting Boards in Individual Countries**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to accounting standard-setting in individual countries. This is designed to provide a snapshot of the on-going work and future priorities of the respective boards.

Following each presentation, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

*13:00-14:30 Lunch Break*

**14:30-16:00 Accounting for Social Benefits**

Social benefits account for a very significant share of total government activity although their specific design features vary greatly across countries.

The proper accounting treatment of such programs is one of the most contentious issues in public sector accounting with no agreed international standards. Some view their future outlays as current liabilities of governments and should be recognized as such. Others reject that they represent future liabilities of governments and should therefore not be recognized. A number of countries have taken the “middle” approach of providing supplemental information on such programs in their financial statements.

This is of course keenly related to the issue of fiscal sustainability with some skeptics questioning the value of accruals in general if it does not capture these long-term costs.

Following a set of lead presentations highlighting different points of view, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

*16:00-16:30 Coffee Break*

**16:30-18:00 Making Financial Statements More Useful to End-Users**

This session builds on the session on *Structure and Format of Financial Reports* at last year’s meeting.

It will focus on how financial reporting can be better tailored to the needs of end-users, especially for managerial purposes. This is in response to numerous comments at last year’s meeting that financial statements had “lost their way” in this regard as they focused increasingly on accountability purposes only.

The session will provide examples of how governments are responding to this issue. Following a set of lead presentations, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

***from 18:00* Cocktail Reception**

The OECD Secretariat invites all participants to a cocktail reception in the *Château de la Muette*.

**Friday, 9 March 2011**

**9:30-11:00 Governance of IPSASB**

The prominence of International Public Sector Accounting Standards has grown markedly in recent years. This gives rise to questions being raised about the legitimacy (composition), credibility (work program), and accountability (oversight) of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board in promulgating these standards. This is recognized by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and IPSASB themselves and these arrangements are under review.

This session is designed to discuss the governance of IPSASB from the perspective of national governments and how increased involvement of national governments could serve to alleviate some of the concerns raised.

The session will also feature a report by the European Commission on their current evaluation of the applicability of IPSAS.

Following lead presentations by the OECD Secretariat, IPSASB, and the European Commission, the floor will be opened to discussion among all Delegates.

*11:00-11:30 Coffee Break*

**11:30-13:00 Agency-Level Financial Reporting**

The United States Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) with the OECD conducted an international survey of the use of agency level financial statements. The term “agency-level” applies to any component level reporting – these can include individual ministries, departments and agencies.

The survey addressed whether such statements were prepared in countries and if so: At what level of detail and at what frequency? What accounting standards were they in conformity with? Were they audited? It also asked how such statements were used and by whom.

This session will feature a presentation on the responses to the survey as a means to launch the discussion among all Delegates on the subject.

*13:00-14:30 Lunch Break*

**14:30-15:30 Future Work Programme**

The session is designed for Delegates to identify emerging priority areas for future work, the nature of their interest in the subject, and their willingness to participate in particular studies.

**15:30 Closing by Chairman and OECD Secretariat**

## GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

### ***Meeting Location***

The meeting will take place at the OECD Conference Center which is located at 2 rue André-Pascal in the 16th *arrondissement* (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “*La Muette*.”

### ***Registration Form***

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

### ***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 at least 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.

### ***Cocktail Reception***

The OECD Secretariat invites all participants to a cocktail reception in the *Château de la Muette* at the conclusion of the first day of the meeting.

### ***Wi-Fi Internet Access and Business Centre***

The OECD Conference Centre features complimentary Wi-Fi Internet Access in all meeting rooms and throughout its facilities. There is also a Business Centre located in the Conference Center offering complimentary desktop computers with standard Microsoft Office software, Internet connections and printers.



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**Paris, 8-9 March 2012**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

(TO BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PARTICIPANT)

Mr. [ ]      Mrs. [ ]      Ms. [ ]

LAST NAME (in BLOCK letters) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

JOB TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANISATION \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FACSIMILE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed form to Mrs. Hélène LECONTE-LUCAS  
OECD - GOV/BUD

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