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PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE  
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

Draft Agenda: 12th Annual Meeting of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Senior Budget  
Officials (CESEE-SBO)

28-29 June 2016  
Ljubljana, Slovenia

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**Draft Agenda: 12th Annual Meeting of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Senior Budget Officials (CESEE-SBO)**

**28-29 June 2016**

**Ljubljana, Slovenia**

*The meeting is co-hosted by the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF) and the Slovenian Ministry of Finance, with the cooperation of PEMPAL and the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency (GIFT).*

*Interpretation into English, Russian and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian is provided.*

**Wednesday 27 June 2016**

*The CEF and the Slovenian Ministry of Finance invite all delegates to a **welcome reception** on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 19:00, at the CEF premises, Cankarjeva 18, Ljubljana.*

**Tuesday 28 June 2016**

*9:15-9:30: Welcome / Keynote address by **Dr. Sc. Dušan Mramor**, Slovenian Minister for Finance.*

*9:30-9:45: Opening and delegates' introduction.*

**Tuesday 28 June 2016**

09:45-11:00 **1. SESSION 1 -- Are PFM and Public Governance Reforms in the region Yielding results?**

How effective are PFM reform programmes in helping countries to improve national development and policy impacts? What can countries learn from the similarities, and indeed differences, in their national approaches? How should a PFM reform program be designed and sequenced, and who are the stakeholders that can facilitate this? What are the implications for, and the linkages with, effective public governance more broadly? Keynote speakers from the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF), the OECD and a country expert from the region will introduce and lead the discussion.

***Lead speakers:***

- Ivana Jakir Bajo, Croatia
- Klas Klaas, SIGMA, OECD
- Duncan Last, IMF
- Irena Rostan, Slovenia

11:00-11:30 **Coffee**

11:30-12:45	<p><b>2. SESSION 2 -- Fiscal risks -- Identification, management and mitigation strategies</b>  <b>Current challenges of Budgetary Governance: Key issues and questions</b></p> <p>This session will present an overview of how fiscal risks are monitored, managed and mitigated across the region, including a discussion of how countries assess the scale and nature of fiscal risk and its implications for national development and fiscal policy.</p> <p><i>Lead speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jaehyuk Choi, GOV/BUD, OECD</li> <li>• Johann Seiwald, IMF</li> <li>• Iona Burla, Romania</li> <li>• Gints Trupovnieks, Latvia</li> </ul>
12:45-13:00	<p><b>3. SESSION 3 -- Current challenges of budgetary governance: Key issues and questions</b></p> <p>Reflecting the issues raised in the previous session, a series of topics and key questions will be proposed, to set the scene for engaging and focused discussion in the Parallel Sessions</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robert Bauchmüller, CEF, Slovenia</li> </ul>
13:00-14:30	<p><b>Luncheon</b></p>
14:30-15:45	<p><b>4. SESSION 4 -- Current challenges of budgetary governance: Parallel sessions</b></p>
12:00-13:15	<p><b>4.a. Parallel session A: Building a vision for national development: the role of targets, goals and benchmarks in integrating planning and budgeting</b></p> <p><i>Lead speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nikolay Begchin, Russia</li> <li>• Klas Klaas, SIGMA, OECD</li> <li>• Katja Lautar, Slovenia</li> <li>• <i>Facilitator:</i> Ronnie Downes, OECD</li> </ul>
12:00-13:15	<p><b>4.b. Parallel session B: Budget flexibility, agility and responsiveness: country experiences of dealing with the case of immigration.</b></p> <p><i>Lead speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mladenka Karacic, Croatia</li> <li>• Bahadir Yildiz, Turkey</li> <li>• <i>Facilitator:</i> Mojmir Mrak, Slovenia</li> </ul>

12:00-13:15 **4.c. Parallel session C: Building the institutional and HR capacities to deliver PFM reform**

*Lead speakers:*

- Jana Repansek, CEF, Slovenia
- Veikko Kapsta, Estonia
- *Facilitator:* Gasper Plesko Zalar, Slovenia

15:45-16:15 **Coffee**

14:30-15:00 **5. SESSION 5 -- Report from Parallel sessions**

The rapporteurs from each of the three parallel sessions will report upon key outcomes from their sessions, leading to plenary discussion and overall conclusions.

15:00-15:45 **6. SESSION 6 -- Performance Budgeting Update on 2016 OECD Survey**

The OECD Secretariat will update delegates on the interim findings of the 2016 OECD Survey of Performance & Evaluation, indicating how the topics identified at last year's discussion have been progressed. The PEMPAL Secretariat will explain how the survey methodology will be extended to the CESEE and broader region.

*Lead speakers:*

- Ronnie Downes, GOV/BUD, OECD
- Nikolay Begchin, Russia

**Thursday 29 June 2016**

9:00-10:15 **7. SESSION 7 -- Fiscal Transparency -- What does it mean today?**

Launching today's joint session with the OGP-FOWG, a panel of international experts and practitioners will give a high-level overview of the current issues and priorities facing the region, and the global community, in advancing the cause of fiscal transparency. The discussion will focus on how the understanding of transparency has evolved – “transparency with a purpose” – and will highlight the tools and instruments that can help in shaping an open, inclusive budget process. The session will be led by the Global Initiative on Fiscal Transparency (GIFT) and will include speakers from the International Budget Partnership (IBP), OECD and PEMPAL.

*Session Chair:* Juan Pablo Guerrero, GIFT

*Lead speakers:*

- Ronnie Downes, OECD
- Lewis Hawke, PEFA, World Bank
- Anna Belenchuk, Russia
- Elena Mondo, IBP
- Johann Seiwald, IMG
- Jonas Arp Fallov, World Bank

10:15-10:45	<b>Coffee</b>
10:45-12:00	<p><b>8. SESSION 8 -- Public participation in budgeting: Applying the new GIFT principles</b></p> <p>Public participation an important new horizon in budgeting, applying the principle of transparency in a more active engagement of stakeholders. GIFT has developed “Principles of Public Participation in Fiscal Policy” aimed at facilitating a structured, meaningful process of engagement between the executive and civil society. In parallel, international organisations have included participation as an element in their normative frameworks, and the IBP is developing a set of indicators based on the GIFT initiative. After an initial presentation of the international work on participation, this session will open a practical discussion about what these principles should mean in practice.</p> <p><i>Session Chair:</i> Ronnie Downes, OECD</p> <p><i>Lead speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Murray Petrie, GIFT</li> <li>● Anjali Gard, IBP</li> <li>● Katarina Ott, Croatia</li> </ul>
12:00-12:45	<p><b>9. SESSION 9 -- Towards a "Shared Toolkit on Budget Transparency"</b></p> <p>In line with the priorities of the G20 in promoting integrity, anti-corruption and open government, the OECD has been tasked with coordinating work among international organisations and the broader international community on developing a practical “Shared Toolkit on Budget Transparency”. The toolkit should (a) provide a concise reference of actions and steps to improve budget transparency, (b) represent a shared synthesis of insights gained from the complementary work of the different bodies active in this field, and (c) serve as a gateway to the various authoritative and detailed reference materials that are available. The Fiscal Openness Working Group of OGP is uniquely positioned to orient and validate this work. An initial draft will be presented for critical and collaborative peer discussion.</p> <p><i>Session Chair:</i> Elena Mondo, IBP</p> <p><i>Lead speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ruben Werchan, OECD</li> </ul> <p><i>Respondents:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anna Belenchuk, Russia</li> <li>● Deanna Aubrey, PEMPAL</li> <li>● Johann Seiwald, IMF</li> <li>● Juan Pablo Guerrero, GIFT</li> </ul>
12:45:14:15	<b>Luncheon</b>

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14:15-15:30 **10. SESSION 10 -- Beyond the Plateau: Shared Practical challenges in Open Budgeting -- Thematic country dialogues**

Against the background of the preparation of Open Government Partnership (OGP) National Action Plans by many countries in the region, these “breakout sessions” will allow for shared learning about the key challenges being faced by practitioners, and on how countries can continue to progress along the budget transparency spectrum. Each session will be an interactive discussion involving country practitioners and Open Budget Survey (OBS) peer reviewers.

A: Clear financial reports, citizens budgets and open data

- **Discussants:** Talas Aidarbek Uulu, Klara Tentimishova, Kyrgyz Republic, Olena Mykhailenko, Volodymyr Tarnay, Ukraine
- **Facilitator:** Kanat Asangulov, Kyrgyzstan

B: Reporting on fiscal sustainability, inter-generational equity and the multi-dimensional impacts of budgeting

- **Discussants:** Aleksandra Banovic, Bosnia, Nevenka Brkic, Croatia, Mirjana Cojbasic, Slatko Minic, Serbia
- **Facilitator:** Irena Rostan, Slovenia

C: Engaging parliament and civil society as contributors throughout the budget cycle

- **Discussants:** Nato Mokverashvili, Mikheil Kukava, Georgia, Richard Adorjan, Balazs Romhanyi, Hungary
- **Facilitator:** Kaja Jurtela, Slovenia

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15:30-16:00 **Coffee**

16:00-16:30 **11. SESSION 11 -- Report from the country Dialogues**

An IBP representative will chair the summary session, bringing together the views from the rapporteurs from each of the Thematic Country Dialogue parallel sessions.

**Session Chair:**

- Elena Mondo, IBP

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16:10-17:00 **12. SESSION 12 -- Country Focus: Inter-institutional coordination for Budget Transparency**

Countries in the region have been undertaking a range of reforms and innovations to promote budget transparency and improved public governance. These reforms require the involvement and shared commitment of the broad range of institutional stakeholders – including parliament, the national audit institution as well as perspectives from civil society. This session will take a focused look at stakeholder coordination in country context, drawing out aspects of particular relevance for peers in the region.

**Session Chair:** Kaja Jurtela, CEF, Slovenia

**Lead speakers:**

- Irena Rostan, Ministry of Finance, Slovenia
- Jorg Kristijan Petrovic, Slovenia
- Maja Klun, Ljubljana university

***Commenters:***

- Katarina Ott, Croatia
- Hana Zoricic, Croatia

17:00-17:30    **12.a.    SESSION 13 -- Closing and Future work**

***Lead speaker:*** Ronnie Downes, OECD

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**Annex: GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION*****Meeting Location***

The meeting will be held in two locations.

The **plenary sessions** will be organized in **conference room Kavarna in hotel Slon**.

The **breakout sessions** will be held in **hotel Slon and CEF premises** (located at 5 minutes walk from Hotel Slon).

Detailed information about group distribution will be provided during the event by the organizers.

***Accommodation***

Please contact the hotel Slon for your reservations.

HOTEL SLON, Slovenska cesta 34, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

<http://www.hotelslon.com>

- comfort room - 105€/night (available from Jun 27-29, 2016 – 3 nights)
- economy room - 88€/night (available from Jun 28-29, 2016 – 2 nights)

Prices are inclusive of VAT, breakfast and high speed Wi-Fi access. Please contact the hotel via e-mail [sales@hotelslon.com](mailto:sales@hotelslon.com) and book your room indicating the code: OECD SBO MEETING.

***Registration Form***

All Delegates need to complete the online registration form <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xpMMSsaQLxKHExQzDybvKf4RF5eJwuNQVRLWRSH6vEY/viewform> Entry passes can only be issued to the registered Delegates.

***Hospitality***

On **Monday 27 June, at 19:00**, all delegates are kindly invited to the **welcome reception** organized by the CEF and Slovenian Ministry of Finance **at the CEF premises**, Cankarjeva 18, Ljubljana.

On **Tuesday 28 June**, the CEF and the Slovenian Ministry of Finance invite delegates for a **dinner** in restaurant "Gostilna na Gradu" located next to Ljubljana Castle. The restaurant is in the walking distance of the hotel Slon and can be reached by funicular. The group will be accompanied by CEF staff. The **meeting point is in front of hotel Slon at 19:00**.

All Delegates are also invited to luncheons on both days of the meeting.

***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.

***Simultaneous Translation***

Simultaneous translation between English, Russian and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian will be available throughout the meeting.