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Three New Permanent Representatives to the OECD

The following have recently taken up posts as Heads of Permanent Delegation to the OECD.

Spain

Ambassador Elena Pisonero Ruiz, born in 1963, graduated in Economics from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She worked as an economist successively for Siemens, Ernst & Young, and Spain’s Instituto de Estudios Económicos before taking up a post in 1992 as adviser on economic issues to the parliamentary group of Spain’s Partido Popular. In May 1996, she was appointed adviser to Spain’s Minister of Economy and Finance, and subsequently head of his private office. In June 1998, she was appointed Secretary of State for Commerce, Tourism and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. In March 2000, she was elected to the Spanish Parliament as a Partido Popular representative for Madrid. Ambassador Pisonero replaces Ambassador José Luis Feito.

European Commission

Ambassador John Maddison, born in 1941, has a B. A. Honours degree from Manchester University and a Diploma in Education from the University of Cambridge. He worked as a teacher before joining the British Embassy in Paris as Commercial Attaché in 1968, and in 1973 he took up a post at the European Commission, where he worked successively on industrial affairs, agriculture, and enlargement issues. Prior to taking up his present post, he was Head of the European Commission’s Delegation to Norway. He replaces Ambassador Piergiorgio Mazzocchi.

Slovak Republic

Counsellor Dušan Bella was born in 1958 and earned a degree in material engineering at the Faculty of Nuclear Science and Physical Engineering of the Czech Technical University. He began his career as a researcher in the Research and Development Institute in Martin, Slovakia, where he rose to become Marketing Manager. In 1991 he won a fellowship from the Australian government to study Business Administration at Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne, where he obtained a Graduate Certificate the following year. He joined the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993, serving as Director of the Department for International Economic Co-operation and Director-General of the Multilateral Co-operation Directorate. In September 1996, he was appointed Head of the OECD Section at the Slovak Embassy in Paris. Under the procedures for Slovakia’s accession to the OECD, he heads Slovakia’s permanent delegation to the OECD pending the formal appointment of an Ambassador to the OECD.