OECD-Commonwealth Working Group Continues Its Discussion on Harmful Tax Competition

The joint Working Group of jurisdictions from the Commonwealth and the OECD established in Barbados will continue its discussions in Paris on 1-2 March 2001.

The Working Group, jointly chaired by Mr Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados, and Mr Tony Hinton, Australia’s Ambassador to the OECD in Paris, will focus its discussions on the remit provided to it in Barbados and, in particular, will attempt to find “a mutually acceptable political process by which these principles (of transparency, non-discrimination and effective exchange of information) could be turned into commitments”. The Group will also examine how to promote a framework within which the idea of a more inclusive global dialogue on tax issues might be progressed.

The members of the Working Group are Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, the Cook Islands, France, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Malta, the Netherlands, Vanuatu and the United Kingdom.

For further information, journalists are invited to contact Nicholas Bray, Head of OECD Media Relations Division (tel. 33 1 45 24 80 90 or nicholas.bray@oecd.org), or Joel Kibazo, Director of the Information and Public Affairs Division at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London (tel. 44 207 747 63 80 or j.kibazo@commonwealth.int).