
OECD Forum 2002 and Annual OECD Ministerial Council Meeting - 13-16 May 2002

Global decision makers will gather in Paris to discuss economic growth and stability and development issues at the OECD’s Forum 2002 on 13-15 May and the OECD’s annual Ministerial Council Meeting on 15-16 May.

OECD Forum 2002, at the CNIT conference centre in Paris-La Défense, will have as its theme: “Taking Care of the Fundamentals: Security, Equity, Education and Growth”. It will bring together government ministers, and representatives of civil society, labour and business for three days of open public debate.

Discussions at the Forum will be relayed to the OECD’s annual Ministerial Meeting, 15-16 May at OECD headquarters in Paris (2 rue André-Pascal, 75116 Paris) by the Belgian Minister for State, Annemie Neyts. Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt will be the Chairman of the Ministerial.

Ministers from OECD countries will meet with ministers from non-OECD countries on the morning of 16 May and later with ministers from Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa, representing the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). This will be followed, at 3 p.m., by a meeting of agency heads and OECD ministers responsible for development issues for the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) High Level Meeting.

These debates are an integral part of the global discussions continuing throughout this year in fora such as the IMF, the G8, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Practical arrangements for journalists

**Forum 2002**
- The Forum is open to all journalists free of charge.
- OECD Secretary-General Donald J. Johnston and Belgian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Annemie Neyts will open the Forum at 10.00 a.m. on Monday 13 May.
- Media briefings will be arranged with key speakers immediately following each session.
- Interviews with speakers can be arranged on an individual basis through OECD staff who will be on hand to assist journalists.
- A press-room equipped with computer and phone hook-ups will be available.

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The OECD Ministerial Council Meeting

- Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt and OECD Secretary-General Donald J. Johnston will hold a pre-ministerial news conference at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 8 May at the International Press Centre in Brussels.
- Mr. Johnston and Belgian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Annemie Neyts will hold a pre-ministerial media briefing at OECD Forum 2002 at 11.00 a.m. on Monday 13 May.
- Mr. Verhofstadt will brief the media at the end of the first day of the Ministerial, at around 6.15 p.m. on Wednesday 15 May at OECD headquarters.
- Mr. Verhofstadt and Mr. Johnston will hold a closing news conference at 3.30 p.m. on Thursday 16 May at OECD headquarters.
- Journalists will be informed of national media briefings as they are organised.
- Information concerning the conclusions of the DAC High Level Meeting will be relayed to journalists in due course.
- Outside formal news conferences, interviews with ministers can be arranged on an individual basis through their national delegations or OECD Media-Relations staff.
- Press rooms with computer and phone hook-ups will be available.
- There will be a short photo opportunity at the beginning of each session of the OECD Ministerial Meeting and the DAC ministers’ meeting.
- The OECD TV, radio and videoconference studios will be available to all broadcast journalists on a first come, first served basis. This includes cameras, editing facilities, ISDN lines and the necessary technicians. These facilities are available free of charge.

For further information and to register for the Forum, journalists are invited to contact Meggan Dissly (tel. [33] 1 45 24 80 94 or meggan.dissly@oecd.org).

For further information, and to register for the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting and the DAC High Level Meeting, journalists are invited to contact the OECD’s Media Relations Division (tel. [33] 1 45 24 97 00 or news.contact@oecd.org).