OECD Ministerial Meetings, OECD Forum 2005: “Fuelling the Future”

Social policies and the roles of the family and the state will be at the heart of talks between OECD Social Affairs Ministers in Paris on 31 March and 1 April 2005. On 2-3 May, the OECD Forum will address issues from trade and development to structural reform and energy. Also on 2-3 May, ministers from International Energy Agency countries will discuss energy policy. On 3-4 May, OECD Finance and Trade Ministers will hold the OECD’s annual Ministerial Council Meeting.

Social Affairs Ministerial, 31 March – 1 April – Ministers will meet at OECD headquarters under the chairmanship of Dutch Minister of Social Affairs and Employment Aart Jan de Geus to discuss on “Extending opportunities: How active social policy can benefit us all”.

- At 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 30 March, the OECD’s Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, John Martin, will present the issues at a news briefing.
- During the afternoon of Thursday 31 March, starting at 2.30 p.m., ministers and representatives of business, labour and civil society will debate policy issues in a Forum which is open to the media.
- A closing news conference will be held with the Chair at 0 p.m. on Friday 1 April.
- For further details, see: www.oecd.org/socialmin2005 (available shortly)

OECD Forum 2005, 2-3 May - This year’s OECD Forum, under the theme "Fuelling the Future: Security, Stability, Development”, will focus on the international economy, trade, development and energy. It will take place at the Centre de Conférences Internationales, 19 Avenue Kléber, Paris 75016,

- The Forum will be opened by OECD Secretary General Donald J. Johnston at 9.30 a.m, Monday 2 May.
- Confirmed speakers include: Richard Descoings, Director, Institut d’études politiques de Paris; Thierry Desmarest, Chairman and CEO of Total; Karel de Gucht, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium; John J. Sweeney, President of American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organisations. Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson, who will be chairing the OECD’s 2005 Ministerial meeting, will make a keynote address.
- For further details, see: www.oecd.org/forum2005.

International Energy Agency Ministerial Meeting, 2-3 May - Ministers from the 26 IEA countries will meet at the Hotel Méridien Etoile, Paris to discuss current energy issues and challenges under the headline “Investing in the Future”.

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• Australia’s Minister for Tourism, Industry and Resources, Ian MacFarlane, will chair the meeting.

• A Ministerial-level official from China will participate in several of the sessions.

• A press conference will be held at 12.00 noon at the Hotel Méridien Etoile on Tuesday, 3 May.

• For accreditation, journalists are asked to send an e-mail with name, media and press card number before 20 April to IEAPressOffice@iea.org.

**OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, 3-4 May** - Ministers from OECD and other countries will meet at OECD headquarters to discuss a range of economic policy issues including **energy and investment, globalization and structural adjustment**.

• The meeting will be chaired by Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson, who will give a closing news conference at 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday 4 May.

Further details of news conferences and media briefings will be announced on the OECD’s website. Media facilities, including a press room with phone hook-ups, will be available. The OECD’s TV, radio and videoconference studios are available at OECD headquarters free of charge to broadcast journalists on a first come, first served basis; this includes cameras, editing facilities, ISDN lines and the necessary technicians.


• For further information about the Forum, journalists should contact Meggan Dissly (tel: [33] 1 45 24 80 94 or mailto:meggan.dissly@oecd.org).

• For further information about the International Energy Agency Ministerial  www.iea.org

• For further information about the Social Affairs Ministerial and the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, journalists are invited to contact the OECD Media Relations Division (tel: [33] 1 45 24 97 00 or mailto:news.contact@oecd.org).