OECD MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOCIAL POLICY TO MEET

Paris, 8th-9th December 1992

Ministers responsible for social policy in OECD Member countries are to meet at the Organisation’s Paris headquarters on 8th and 9th December 1992. Four main areas will be on the agenda: new orientations for social policy, health care, the transition from work to retirement, and the care of frail elderly people.

The meeting, which starts at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 8th December, will be chaired by Mr. Luis MARTINEZ NOVAL, Minister of Labour and Social Security (Spain), with the Honourable Neal BLEWETT, MP, Minister for Social Security (Australia) and Mr. Bengt WESTERBERG, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs (Sweden) acting as Vice-Chairmen. Ministers are expected to adopt a final communique which will be available at a concluding PRESS CONFERENCE to be held at 5.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY 9th DECEMBER.

When social affairs ministers last met in 1988, persistent but falling unemployment and the potential costs of ageing in OECD populations were major issues confronting them. Today, as they meet, OECD economies are in a very difficult situation with growing public budget deficits. The context is one of rising unemployment (especially long-term unemployment), increased pressures on vulnerable family structures and in general the need to search for new orientations for social policy that will be more efficient in the use of resources and more effective in addressing needs.

Cameramen and photographers will be allowed into Room 1 at the start of the meeting (10 a.m.) on 8th December. Radio/TV studio facilities will be available.

Contacts

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