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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

05-Dec-2005

English - Or. English

**PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE  
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Working Party of Senior Budget Officials**

#### **PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

#### **2005 MEETING OF THE OECD ASIA SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS NETWORK**

**Bangkok, 15-16 December, 2005**

*This meeting is hosted by the Thai Bureau of Budget. The Australian and Korean governments are also gratefully acknowledged for their financial assistance.*

For further information, please contact Mr. Jón R. BLÖNDAL:  
Jon.blondal@oecd.org Tel: +33 1 45 24 76 59; Fax: +33 1 44 30 63 34

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**MEETING OF OECD-ASIAN SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS NETWORK**  
**BANGKOK, 15-16 DECEMBER 2005**

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*Thursday, 15 December*

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<b>9: 30</b>	<b>Opening</b>
<b>9: 30-10:00</b>	Keynote Address by the Prime Minister of Thailand Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra
<b>10:00-10:30</b>	Opening by Co-chairmen and OECD Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mr. Vudhibhandhu Vichairatana, Director-General, Bureau of the Budget, Office of the Prime Minister, Thailand</li><li>▪ Mr. Ian Watt, Permanent Secretary, Department of Finance, Australia</li><li>▪ Mr. Richard Hecklinger, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD</li></ul>
<i>10:30-11:00</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>11:00-13:00</b>	<b>Performance Budgeting</b> <p>A perennial goal of governments has been to incorporate a greater focus on performance into budgeting (results, outcomes and outputs). This session is designed to reflect on the concept of performance, what has been learned from recent experiences in overcoming implementation problems, and what implications this has for the use of performance budgeting.</p>
<i>13:00-14:30</i>	<i>Luncheon</i>
<b>14:30-16:00</b>	<b>Budget Issues in the People's Republic of China</b> <p>The budgeting system of the People's Republic of China will be profiled during this session. In the recent past, China has made significant and rapid achievements in building the infrastructure for a modern budgeting process, where none existed before. In the planned economy, all major policy decisions were made in the Plan with the budget serving primarily as a financing and accounting device. The session will discuss the progress so far and the remaining challenges.</p>
<i>16:00-16:30</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>16:30-18:00</b>	<b>Public-Private Partnerships (PPP's)</b> <p>The use of PPP's for financing infrastructure and other projects is rising worldwide. This session will focus on the attributes most important to the overall success of PPP's, and how PPP's can best be integrated into the annual budget process so that they do not serve to bypass the procedures for ensuring fiscal discipline.</p>
<b>19:00-22:00</b>	<b>Gala Dinner Hosted by the Thai Bureau of the Budget</b>

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***Friday, 16 December***

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**9:30-11:00****Reporting on Fiscal Sustainability**

Fiscal sustainability is the government's ability to manage its finances so it can meet its spending commitments, both now and in the future. The practices employed by countries vary as to how they report on fiscal sustainability, both in terms of the specific reporting models used and the coverage of the long-term projections. This session is designed for participants to discuss their general experiences with reporting on fiscal sustainability, and explore the advantages and disadvantages of specific reporting mechanisms.

*11:00-11:30**Coffee Break***11:30-13:00****Budgeting in Thailand**

The OECD has reviewed the budgeting system in Thailand. The report discusses the key features of the budget formulation process, the role of the legislature in approving the budget and budget implementation issues. The report also discusses key performance and management issues. The objective is to provide a comprehensive overview of the budgeting system as a basis for discussion (“peer review”).

*13:00-14:30**Luncheon***14:30-15:15****Public Expenditure Review (PER)**

Presentation by the Thai Budget Bureau findings on the concept and the scope of *PER*.

**15:15-16:00****Panel Discussion on Key Budgeting Issues in Asian Region**

A panel of officials and scholars from the Asian region and OECD Member countries will discuss key budgeting issues in the Asian region and reflect on them in light of experiences of OECD Member countries.

**16:00-16:15****OECD's Future Work Programme**

This session is designed for Delegates to identify emerging priority areas for future work, the nature of their interest in the subject and their willingness to participate in particular studies.

The OECD Secretariat will highlight the *OECD Budgeting Database*, which is currently being revised and re-launched.

**16:15****Closing**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **DISCUSSION FORMAT**

Each substantive session will open with a brief overview of the topic by the OECD Secretariat. The floor will then be opened to all participants for general discussion. One participant from the Asian region will be asked to lead-off the discussion.

### **CONFERENCE LOCATION – HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

The meeting will take place at the Dusit Thani Hotel, which is located at 946 Rama IV Road in central Bangkok [<http://bangkok.dusit.com>].

Special room rates have been negotiated for conference participants at the Dusit Thani Hotel and at the Montien Hotel. Please make reservations directly with the hotel, noting “OECD Asian Senior Budget Officials Meeting” in order to qualify for the special room rates.

### **REGISTRATION**

All participants are requested to complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting.

The meeting will commence promptly at 9:30 a.m. Participants are kindly asked to arrive 15-30 minutes in advance in order to complete registration formalities.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

Background documents are available for each of the five main substantive sessions. The documents will be distributed electronically to all registered participants prior to the meeting.

### **LANGUAGE**

The meeting will be conducted in English.

## **WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS - SBO**

Budget directors from OECD Member countries have been meeting regularly for nearly 30 years at OECD Headquarters in Paris in the Working Party of Senior Budget Officials, colloquially known as the SBO.

The SBO is recognized as the world's leading forum on international budgeting issues. It is a laboratory of ideas where many of the most important innovations in budgeting have originated.

The key to the success of the SBO has been a culture of informal professionalism and mutual support, within which participants have the confidence for frankness, disclosure and peer review. It is a forum of practitioners, with each meeting chaired by a budget director.

The agenda for each SBO meeting is carefully constructed to reflect the principal issues of the day. The objective is to address key budgeting issues and discuss relevant policy options by learning from each other's experiences.

SBO meetings are generally of two days duration with 5-7 substantive sessions. Sessions usually begin with a brief introduction of the topic by the OECD Secretariat that sets the scene and outlines the key policy questions for subsequent general discussion. A more detailed background paper is frequently prepared for each session as well.

After the opening presentation, one participant is usually asked in advance to lead-off the discussion with a brief intervention. SBO meetings are held in a round-table format that encourages all those attending to participate in the discussion. Sessions generally last ninety-minutes in order to allow sufficient time for debate. Discussions are always off the record, thus providing an atmosphere conducive for the sharing of experiences, both positive and negative.

Much of the discussion also takes place outside of the formal sessions. To aid in this, regular coffee breaks — as well as lunches and dinners — are organized to facilitate networking between participants. For each meeting, the OECD Secretariat provides a list of participants with comprehensive contact details to aid participants in keeping in touch after the meeting.

This format has also been very successful in running meetings for senior budget officials of countries outside of the OECD. Regional network of budget directors have been established in Asia, Latin America, and Eastern and Central Europe. They aim to replicate the same *modus operandi* as at meetings conducted at OECD Headquarters in Paris and to focus the discussion on the issues most relevant to the respective regions.



## 2005 OECD Asian Senior Budget Officials Meeting

BANGKOK, 15-16 DECEMBER 2005

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**REGISTRATION FORM**  
(TO BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PARTICIPANT)

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**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**FIRST NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**JOB TITLE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANISATION** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTRY** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**FACSIMILE** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please return the completed form to:**

**Ms. Hélène Leconte-Lucas**

**OECD - GOV**

**2, rue André-Pascal**

**75775 Paris Cedex 16 -- France**

**Facsimile: +33-1 44 30 63 34**

**E-mail: [helene.leconte@oecd.org](mailto:helene.leconte@oecd.org)**