

Unclassified

GOV/PGC/SBO/A(2006)2

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

06-Feb-2006

English - Or. English

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

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

6th ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUAL SYMPOSIUM

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Paris, 6-7 March 2006

Chairman: Mr. Ian Mackintosh, Chairman, Accounting Standards Board, United Kingdom

For further information, please contact Mr. Jón R. Blöndal at OECD Headquarters:
Tel. +33-1 45 24 76 59 - jon.blondal@oecd.org

JT00200581

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format



GOV/PGC/SBO/A(2006)2
Unclassified

English - Or. English

6TH ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUAL SYMPOSIUM

Paris, 6-7 March 2006

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Monday, 6 March 2006

9:30 **Opening by Chairman**

9:30-11:00 **Conceptual Frameworks**

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the US Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) are jointly conducting a project to develop a common conceptual framework, building on the existing IASB and FASB frameworks and considering developments since they issued their original frameworks. This provides the foundation for developing future accounting standards. This is of fundamental interest to the public sector since International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) are *de facto* based on the private sector conceptual framework.

Mr. Kevin Simpkins, former Deputy Controller and Auditor-General of New Zealand and currently involved with the “public sector perspective” input to the development of this conceptual framework, will provide an overview of the project and highlight specific topics and decisions of special relevance to the public sector.

This will be followed by a presentation by Ms. Wendy Comes, Executive Director, US Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), outlining the *government-specific* conceptual framework being developed for the Federal government.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

11:00-11:30 *Coffee Break*

11:30-12:15 **Report by International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)**

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and their possible implications for the public sector (aside from the conceptual framework noted above.) The session will discuss current issues such as contingent assets and liabilities, pension cost accounting, fair value measurement, and management commentary on financial statements.

This session will be led by Ms. Elizabeth Hickey, Director of Technical Activities, International Accounting Standards Board.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

12:15-13:00 Report by International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB)

This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). It will provide a progress report on the Board's on-going work on promulgating standards for revenue from non-exchange transactions (taxes and transfers) and accounting for social policy obligations of governments, which were extensively discussed at last year's Accruals Symposium. The session will highlight recently issued exposure drafts – including convergences of IPSAS with IFRS, the presentation of budget information in financial statements, and accounting for recipients of development assistance. The overall strategy and work programme of IPSASB will also be outlined.

This session will be led by Mr. Philippe Adhémar, Chairman, International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

13:00-14:30 Lunch Break

14:30-16:00 Achieving the Benefits of Accruals in a Cash Environment

This session is designed to explore manners in which the benefits of accruals can be achieved in a cash environment. This is especially important as the trend in Member countries is to retain cash for budget purposes, while introducing accruals for the financial statements.

The move from cash to accruals generally has the greatest impact on reported interest expense, employee pension costs and capital acquisition/depreciation. Several Member countries have already moved the recording of interest expense and employee pension costs to an accrual basis, while retaining cash basis for other transactions.

Mr. Art Stigile, Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Management and Budget, United States, will launch the discussion with a presentation on the *Capital Acquisition Funds*, currently under consideration in the United States. They would create a system of internal loan funds from which agencies could borrow and repay over the life of the asset. Both would be authorised in the budget at the time of acquiring the asset. A capital charge regime is also envisaged as part of this system. This would avoid creating spikes in the appropriations to agencies for “lump sum” capital acquisitions and foster improved management of capital assets.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:00 Panel Discussion on Implementing Accruals - I

A series of panels consisting of senior officials from Member countries will lead off discussion of their experiences with specific aspects of implementing accruals.

During this session, two panels will focus on (a.) the actual move to accruals (preparation, systems redesign, process changes) and (b.) assurance (ensuring information is accurate and complete, bedding in system changes, audit, gaining credibility), respectively.

The floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates following each panel.

18:00-20:00 Cocktail Hosted by the OECD

Tuesday, 7 March 2005

9:30-11:00 Accounting for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP's)

The use of public-private partnerships is increasing in Member countries. Its advocates view it as an innovative way to involve private sector financing while achieving overall efficiency gains in the design, build, maintenance and operations of infrastructure assets. Its detractors view them largely as a means of bypassing the traditional disciplines of the budget process.

The proper accounting treatment for PPP's is unsettled with a variety of practices in place. In fact, some PPP's would appear to have been entered into primarily because of the lax (off-budget) accounting treatment of such transactions.

This session will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss their experiences in this field and thus contribute to a greater international consensus on the appropriate accounting treatment of PPP's.

This session will be led presentations by Mr. Philippe Hubert, Director, *Veolia Environnement*, and a member of the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG)'s working group considering PPP's, and Mr. Morten Baltzersen, the Norwegian budget director.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Panel Discussion on Implementing Accruals – II

This session continues the series of panels of senior officials from Member countries discussing their experiences with specific aspects of implementing accruals.

During this session, two panels will focus on (c.) the use of accruals (“marketing,” achieving better decision making and accountability, ensuring needs are met, integration with non-accounting processes) and on (d.) integrating accrual cost information with performance information, respectively.

The floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates following each panel.

13:00-14:30 Lunch Break

14:30-15:00 Report by International Task Force on Harmonization of Public Sector Accounting (ITFHPSA)

The ITFHPSA works at enhancing the harmonization between statistical guidelines and public sector accounting standards, and at updating statistical guidelines for the public sector. It is also recognized as the forum to provide guidance in the area of public sector statistics for the forthcoming update of the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993.

Ms. Lucie Laliberté, Senior Adviser, Statistics Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and Chair of the ITFHPSA will present an update on the work of the ITFHPSA.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

15:00-16:00 IMF Government Finance Statistics Manual

This session will highlight the IMF Government Finance Statistics (GFS) Manual 2001, and how its statistical framework can best be used for fiscal policy analysis.

The session will be led by Mr. Keith Dublin, Chief, Government Finance Division and Ms. Sage De Clerck, Senior Economist, IMF Statistics Department.

The floor will then be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

16:00-16:15 Conclusions by Chairman

MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting location

The meeting will take place at OECD Headquarters which is located at 2 rue Andre Pascal in the 16th arrondissement (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “La Muette”.

Registration form

All Delegates need to complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting.

Security

Please be advised that OECD Headquarters is a secure complex. Entry passes can only be issued to registered Delegates, and a passport or national identity card needs to be presented in order to receive an entry pass. Delegates will also be required to clear an airport-style security checkpoint for entry. Please allow 15 minutes to complete these formalities.

Documentation

The Secretariat will forward the standardized tables showing the spectrum of cash and accrual accounting and budgeting practices in individual Member countries. Member countries are requested to verify this information and update if necessary, and to submit fact sheets on any recent accrual developments in their respective countries.

Simultaneous translation

Simultaneous translation between English and French will be available at the meeting.

6th ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUAL SYMPOSIUM

Paris, 6-7 March 2006

<p style="text-align: center;">REGISTRATION FORM (TO BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PARTICIPANT)</p>
--

LAST NAME (in BLOCK letters) _____

FIRST NAME _____

JOB TITLE _____

ORGANISATION _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

COUNTRY _____

TELEPHONE _____

FACSIMILE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please return the completed form to:

Ms. Hélène LECONTE-LUCAS

OECD - GOV/BUD

2, rue André-Pascal

75775 Paris Cedex 16 - France

E-mail: helene.leconte-lucas@oecd.org

Facsimile: +33-1 44 30 63 34