

WORKING PARTY ON STATE OWNERSHIP AND PRIVATISATION PRACTICES MANDATE

The Working Party on State Ownership and Privatisation Practices is a policy forum created in 2001 to promote improved corporate governance of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and provide guidance on privatisation practices. It oversees implementation of two OECD recommendations: the Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises and the Guidelines on Anti-Corruption and Integrity in State-Owned Enterprises, which provide a framework for governments to assess and improve the way they exercise ownership of SOEs.

Participants

Members of the Working Party include all 38 OECD Member countries and the EU Commission. Argentina, Brazil and Kazakhstan have a standing invitation to attend in view of their status as Participants to the Working Party.

In addition, the following countries have in the past been invited to participate: all key partner countries, (South Africa, Saudi Arabia, People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia), Bulgaria, Croatia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Singapore, Tunisia, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

Finally, the OECD grants observer status in the Working Party to international intergovernmental organisations to enable them to participate in the discussions therein on any matters of interest to them. The observers are the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Mandate

The overarching objectives of the Working Party are:

To initiate and promote policy dialogue and information exchange among members and partner countries with the purpose of improving corporate governance of state-owned enterprises and practices for implementing privatisation policies.

To encourage and assist the application of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance to state-owned enterprises.

In this context, to act as an international standard setter promoting disclosure, transparency, integrity and a level playing field through the implementation of the OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises.

The mid-level objectives to fulfil these duties are:

1. Serve as a pool of expertise from which members and partner countries can draw in the process of designing, adjusting or implementing policies bearing on the ownership and governance of state-owned enterprises, as well as in implementing privatisation policies;
2. Oversee the implementation of the OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises and, when necessary, review the relevance and adequacy of this instrument. Advise other OECD bodies on the application of guidelines in their policy areas, including with respect to integrity, competition, foreign investment and trade;
3. Manage a process of dialogue with partner countries through the organisation and participation in

global, regional and bilateral activities related to the ownership and governance of state-owned enterprises and the implementation of privatisation policies.

The methods used to pursue these objectives and the modalities for cooperation and consultation employed by the Working Party shall be the same, *mutatis mutandis*, as those established for the Corporate Governance Committee [C(2016)165]. These imply, among other things, an openness to “horizontality” – i.e. a need to “collaborate with other relevant bodies of the OECD on cross-cutting issues related to corporate governance”.

The Working Party’s mandate, like the mandate of the Corporate Governance Committee, will remain in force until 31 December 2024.

Governance

The Working Party is headed by a Chair and a Vice Chair, who is assisted in his task by a Bureau of national delegates. The persons involved are the following:

2022 WPSOPP Bureau:

Mr. Charles Donald, (United Kingdom) – Chair
Mr. Kimmo Viertola (Finland) – Vice Chair

Mr. Andrew O’Flanagan (Ireland)
Mr. Sejeong Ha (Korea)
Mr. Vladislavs Vesperis (Latvia)
Mr. Vidas Danielus (Lithuania)
Ms. Margrete Øvrebo (Norway)
Mr. Juan Munguira (Spain)
Mr. Lars Erik Fredriksson (Sweden)
Ms. Lucie Lambert (United Kingdom)
Mr. Michael Rousek (United States)