

## Launch of OECD report on responsible business conduct in Kazakhstan

10.00am, Thursday, 22 May 2014 – Press conference zone, Media City of Palace of Independence, Astana, Kazakhstan

Investors and companies need to understand what is expected of them in the specific environment in which they operate to be able to contribute most effectively to sustainable development and inclusive growth through responsible business conduct.

The first in a new series of country reports targeting the Central Asia and South Caucasus region, *Responsible Business Conduct in Kazakhstan* provides concise and basic information to investors on the existing responsible business conduct expectations in Kazakhstan. Using the *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises* as a framework, the report will serve as a resource document that could help investors overcome challenges in translating standards and principles into practice.

A press conference to launch *Responsible Business Conduct in Kazakhstan* will be held at 10.00am on 22 May 2014 during the Astana Economic Forum. The event will be organised as follows:

- The OECD Project on Responsible Business Conduct in Central Asia and South Caucasus – Opening remarks by Dr. Wolfgang Bányai, Ambassador of Austria to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and Brigitte Lüth, Investment Policy Advisor, Government of Austria;
- The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and their unique implementation mechanism - by Prof.Dr. Roel Nieuwenkamp, Chair of the OECD Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct;
- The OECD report on Responsible Business Conduct in Kazakhstan – Presentation of main findings by Mari-lou Dupont, Legal Expert.

For further information, please contact Mari-lou Dupont ([mari-lou.dupont@oecd.org](mailto:mari-lou.dupont@oecd.org)).

### About the OECD

The OECD is a forum in which governments compare and exchange policy experiences, identify good practices in light of emerging challenges, and promote decisions and recommendations to produce better policies for better lives. The OECD's mission is to promote policies that improve economic and social well-being of people around the world.

### About the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises are recommendations on responsible business conduct addressed by governments to multinational enterprises operating in or from adhering countries. They are the most comprehensive set of recommendations of this kind in existence today, covering all major areas of business ethics, including information disclosure, human rights, employment and industrial relations, environment, bribery and corruption, consumer interests, science and technology, competition, and taxation. The Guidelines are also the only government-backed international instrument on responsible business conduct with a unique implementation mechanism. [mneguidelines.oecd.org](http://mneguidelines.oecd.org)

### About the Project on Responsible Business Conduct in Central Asia and South Caucasus

As part of its work to implement the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the OECD is examining the role of responsible business conduct in building healthy business environments in Central Asia and South Caucasus. Kazakhstan is the first country to be reviewed in a new series of reports focused on responsible business conduct and sustainable development throughout the region. A report on Georgia is scheduled for release in the second half of 2014. This work, supported by the Government of Austria, is consistent with the OECD cooperation with Kazakhstan and the OECD-Eurasia Competitiveness Programme.