

Preparing the OECD Draft Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions

OECD Parliamentary Budget Officials
4th Annual Meeting

Paris, 22-23 February 2012

Lisa von Trapp
Budgeting and Public Expenditures

Genesis

- OECD Secretariat tasked with developing principles for IFI's at the 3rd Annual PBO meeting in Stockholm, 2011
- Formed reference Group of heads and deputy heads of IFIs in Canada, Korea, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UK and the US, and two former Chairs of IFIs in Hungary and Sweden .

Working Definition

“A publicly funded independent body under the statutory authority of the executive or the legislature which provides non-partisan oversight and analysis of, and/or advice on, fiscal policy and performance. “

Critical to this definition are two concepts: (1) that the IFI has “watchdog” function and (2) that it has an ex ante diagnostic task (in contrast to public audit institutions ex-post task).

Country Studies

- **Austria** – Government Debt Committee
- **Australia** – Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO)
- **Belgium** – High Council of Finance
- **Canada** – Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO)
- **Denmark** – Economic Council
- **Ireland** – Fiscal Advisory Council
- **Korea** – National Assembly Budget Office (NABO)
- **Mexico** – Centro de Estudios de las Finanzas Públicas (CEFP)
- **The Netherlands** – Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB)
- **Portugal** – Council on Public Finances (CPF)
- **Slovak Republic** – Fiscal Council
- **Slovenia** – Fiscal Council
- **Sweden** – Fiscal Policy Council (FPC)
- **United Kingdom** – Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)
- **United States** – Congressional Budget Office (CBO)

Draft Principles

Twenty-three proposed principles under seven broad headings:

1. Local ownership
2. Independence and non-partisanship
3. Mandate
4. Resources
5. Relationship with the legislature
6. Access to information
7. Transparency, communication, and evaluation

Next Steps

- Discussion at PBO's 4th Annual Meeting in Paris
- Draft principles and country notes circulated electronically for additional round of comments
- Presentation to Senior Budget Officials (SBO) meeting in Reykjavik in June.
- Published in the Journal on Budgeting for wider dissemination.
- Your ideas?

For further information



- www.oecd.org/gov/budget
- Lisa.vontrapp@oecd.org