1998 Questionnaire.

INTRODUCTION

Following the request of Ministers of OECD countries in May 1997, the OECD is launching reviews of progress on regulatory reform in OECD countries. This work will produce, for each country concerned, a multi-disciplinary review of progress on regulatory reform, based on self-assessment and peer review.

As part of these reviews, a series of comparative regulatory indicators, covering regulatory frameworks, impacts and performance of regulated activities across the OECD Membership, is being developed. *These indicators are an essential element of the OECD's work*: they enhance the capacity of all OECD Members to self-assess progress in regulatory reform by improving cross-country comparisons of key aspects; they make country reviews more systematic, comparable, transparent, and credible; and they improve understanding of links between regulatory structures and performance. The indicators will allow construction of a unique picture of regulatory practices in OECD countries that will improve the policy advice of the OECD in a wide range of areas. *e*.

The 1998 questionnaire reflected a multidisciplinary effort, covering a number of areas. The section presented here corresponds to government capacity for quality regulation.

Questions are based on a multiple choice, yes/no, or single data format. In general, more than one answer is possible in multiple choice questions. No detailed description of regulatory policies is requested. However, if necessary, recipients of the questionnaire may **supplement** the binary or numerical answers with brief explanations. Specific explanations on how to respond are given in the introductory note to each section.

SECTION 2: GOVERNMENT CAPACITY TO PRODUCE HIGH-QUALITY REGULATIONS

This indicators questionnaire supports the OECD in developing a series of comparative regulatory indicators covering regulatory frameworks and performance of regulated activities across the OECD Membership. These indicators are essential elements of the OECD's work: they enhance the capacity of OECD Members to self-assess progress in regulatory reform by improving cross-country comparisons of key aspects; they make country reviews more systematic, comparable, transparent, and credible; and they improve understanding of links between regulatory structures and performance. Interpretation of the indicators will depend on many factors, and hence there is no "right" or "wrong" answer to specific questions.

This section focuses on regulatory processes and capacities in the public administration. It has been developed in consultation with the Regulatory Management and Reform Group of the OECD's Public Management Service. You may wish to check the precise meaning of terms used in the attached glossary. All terms highlighted in **bold italics** appear in the glossary. Where the term "required" is used, it means required by legislation, decree or explicit government policy. Unless otherwise specified in the instructions for each question:

- the term "regulation" covers the diverse set of instruments by which governments set requirements on enterprises and citizens. Regulations include laws, formal and informal orders, subordinate rules, administrative formalities and rules issued by non-governmental or self-regulatory bodies to whom governments have delegated regulatory powers. "Regulatory reform" refers to changes that improve regulatory quality, that is, enhance the performance, cost-effectiveness, or legal quality of regulations and formalities. "Deregulation" is a subset of regulatory reform.
- the questions in this section refer only to regulations or policies issued or accepted by the national government, except: FOR FEDERAL COUNTRIES: if a question asks about an issue that is exclusively or primarily regulated at the state level, please answer for one state, preferably the state with the largest population, and indicate which state has been selected. FOR MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: answers should reflect the application in your country of relevant European-level legislation.
- answers should reflect the regulatory situation as it exists at the time of response, or as recently as possible. Please DO NOT anticipate any future regulatory or reform actions.
- please tick the appropriate box or provide the data requested for each question below. If exact information is not available, aggregates or informed estimates are acceptable. Please answer as many questions as possible, even if some questions are left blank. If necessary, to supplement this questionnaire you may choose to provide more detailed information about specific practices in your country.

Overall strategy for regulatory reform and effectiveness of reform institutions

1. Explicit policy commitment No Yes a) Is there an explicit, published policy promoting government-wide regulatory reform or regulatory quality improvement? b) Are there explicit published policies promoting regulatory reform or regulatory quality improvement in specific sectors? If yes: Yes No b(ii) Was it issued, revised or reaffirmed by the present Government? b(iii) Does it establish explicit objectives of reform? b(iv) Does it set out explicit principles of good regulation? b(v) Does it establish specific responsibilities for reform within the administration? b(vi) Does it establish specific responsibilities for reform at the Ministerial level? b(vii) In what year was the policy introduced or last substantially revised? c) Does government policy impose specific requirements in relation to the following aspects of regulatory quality assurance? For some Government wide sectors Yes No Yes No c(ii) Regulatory Impact Analysis c(iii) Consideration of regulatory alternatives c(iv) Consultation c(v) Transparency/freedom of information c(vi) Plain language drafting c(vii) Evaluation of the results of regulatory programmes 2. Co-ordination and management Yes No a) Is there a dedicated body (or bodies) responsible for encouraging and monitoring regulatory reform or regulatory quality in the national administration? . If the answer is "ves": Yes No a(ii) Is this body routinely consulted as part of the process of developing new regulation? a(iii) Can this body initiate or undertake reform actions? a(iv) Does this body monitor and report on progress made on reform by individual Ministers? a(v) Is this body located in the centre of government (i.e. chief Minister's department or budget agency? a(vi) Can this body make recommendations directly to the head of government?

Yes

No

a(vii) Can this body conduct independent and expert analysis of regulatory impacts?

ŀ	b) Does the budget office have a responsibility to promote regulatory reform?		
C	c) Is a specific Minister accountable for progress on regulatory reform?		
	·	metimes	Rarely
	d) Is the body responsible for trade policy consulted on new regulations?		
ϵ	e) Is the body responsible for competition policy consulted on new regulations?		
Op	enness of regulatory decision-making		
<i>3</i> .	Forward planning of regulatory activities		
(a) Does the government periodically compile a list of laws planned for the future?	Yes	No
Ţ	→ If the answer is "Yes": a(ii) Does the list include most or all major laws planned for the next year?	Yes	No
	a(iii) Is the list easily available to the public?		
ŀ	b) Does the government periodically compile a list of subordinate regulations planned for the future?		
Ĺ	→ If the answer is "Yes": b(ii) Does the list include most or all major subordinate regulations planned for the next year?	Yes	No
	b(iii) Is the list easily available to the public?		
4. <u>4</u>	Administrative procedures	V	A 7.
	a) Are there standard procedures, established in law, by which the administration develops draft legislation?	Yes	No
	b) Are standard procedures established in law for making subordinate regulation?	7	
	If the answer is "yes":		
	b(ii) Do these requirements include scrutiny by a specifically tasked body within the national legislature?		
5.	<u>Public consultation</u>		
		some	No
6	a) Is public consultation a routine part of making new regulations?	ases 	
L	→ If the answer is "always" or "in some cases": a(ii) Is consultation required by law?	Yes	No □
	a(iii) Is consultation required by formal government decree or instruction?		
	a(iv) What forms of public consultation are routinely used (tick all that apply):		
	- Informal consultation?		
	- Circulation of proposals for comment?		
	- Public notice and comment?		
	- Public meeting?		
	- Advisory group?	☐ Yes	□ No
		168	110

a(v) At what stages in the regulatory process is consultation required	d to be und	dertaken?		
- Prior to broad proposals being made?				
- Prior to detailed proposals being made?				
- After detailed proposals are made?				
	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely
a(vi) Is the existence of opportunities to be consulted on proposed regulation widely publicised?				
a(vii) Can any member of the public choose to participate in the consultation?				
a(viii) Are the views of participants in the consultation process made public?				
6. Communication and enforcement of regulations				
a) Are there systematic procedures for making regulations known and parties?	accessible	e to affected	Yes	No
If the answer is "yes", which of the following measures are employed a(i) Codification of laws. If yes:	<i>l</i> :		Yes	No
• Is there a mechanism for regular updating of the codes?				
a(ii) Publication of a consolidated register of all subordinate register. If yes:	gulations	currently is	n	
• Is there a provision that only regulations in the registry are	e enforceal	ble?		
• Can the register be searched by computer by the public?				
More than ann	ually A	nnually 1	ess than	annually
 How frequently is the register updated? 				
a(iii) Computerised dissemination of regulation.			Yes	<i>No</i> □
a(iv) A general policy requiring "plain language" drafting of regular	tion. If yes	ı:		
 Is guidance on plain language drafting issued?. 				
b) Do affected parties have the right to appeal against adverse enforcement decisions in individual cases? If yes:		ases In so	me cases	No
b(i) What forms can this appeal take? (tick all that apply)				
Pos	sible in	Possible i	n Not	possible
• Judicial review?	st cases	some case	es	
 Administrative review to an independent body? 				
 Administrative review by the regulatory enforcement body? 				

Assessment of regulatory impacts

7. <u>Threshold tests</u>							Yes	In som	e	No
		_	rovide explicit justification es" or "in some cases"	of th	e ne	eed for new		cases		
a(ii) Are explicit justification?	deci	sion	criteria required to be i	ısed	in i	making this				
8. <u>Choice of policy instrui</u>	<u>nent:</u>	<u>S</u>						V		A 7.
regulatory) before ad	loptin	g ne	ussess alternative policy ins w regulation? sing alternatives to traditiona				ıd non-	Yes		No
c) Please complete the	table have	e bei	low to show which alternation of the significantly more wide	ves t	o " c	command and		_		
Environment regular	tions		Health, Safety and Con protection regulati		r	Employ	yment reg	gulations	1	
	Yes	No	protection regulation	Yes	No			Y	es .	No
Performance based regulation			Performance based regulation			Performance ba	sed regul	ation [_	
Process regulation			Process regulation			Process regulat	on]	
Co-regulation			Co-regulation			Co-regulation		Ę	_	
Self regulation			Self regulation			Self regulation		Ţ]	
Contractual arrangements			Contractual arrangements			Contractual arr	angemen	ts []	
Voluntary commitments			Voluntary commitments			Voluntary comm	itments	Ę]	
Tradable permits			Tradable permits			Tradable permit	S]	
Taxes and subsidies			Taxes and subsidies			Taxes and subsi	dies	Ę]	
Insurance schemes			Insurance schemes			Insurance schen	ies]	
Information campaigns			Information campaigns			Information can	ıpaigns]	
Deregulation			Deregulation			Deregulation]	
Other (please specify)			Other (please specify)			Other (please sp	ecify)			
9. Regulatory impact ana	lysis	(RL	4)							
-			_			In al		some		No
a) Is RIA required befor	e nev	v reg	ulation is adopted?			cases	;	cases 		
If the answer is "in a	all ca	ses"	or "in some cases":		In cas	es major	·	Some policy		No
a(i) Is RIA required	d bv l	aw?			Г	regulatio	on are	eas only		
a(ii) Is RIA required	•		laws?		_					
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •					_			$\overline{\Box}$		
* /	a(iii) Is RIA required for draft subordinate regulations? a(iv) Are regulators required to quantify costs of new regulations?									

		In all cases	Only for major regulation	Some policy areas only	No
	a(v) Are regulators required to quantify benefits of new regulations?				
	a(vi) Are regulators required to demonstrate that the benefits of new regulation justify the costs?				
	a(vii)Is the likely distribution of effects across society required to be made transparent?				
	a(viii) Are impacts on SMEs required to be explicitly identified and discussed?				
	a(ix) Are impacts on employment required to be explicitly identified and discussed?				
	a(x) Are impacts on competition required to be explicitly identified and discussed?				
	a(xi) Are impacts on trade required to be explicitly identified and discussed?				
	a(xii)Does a government body outside the ministry sponsoring the regulation review the quality of the RIA?				
	a(xiii)Does a body independent of government (e.g. a parliamentary body) review the quality of the RIA?				
	a(xiv) Are RIA documents required to be publicly released for consultation?				
		Most or all	About half	A minority	Few or
	a(xv) How many RIA quantify regulatory costs?				
	a(xvi) How many RIA quantify regulatory benefits?				
	a(xvii) Are reports on compliance with RIA requirements publis	hed regul	arly?	Yes	<i>No</i> □
b)	Is risk assessment a normal part of the development of health, and environment regulation?	safety	Yes Som	e policy areas	No
Law-	drafting capabilities				
10. <u>T</u>	echnical law-drafting capacities		In	all In some	No
a)	Do regulators employ specialist lawdrafters (either directly or u.	nder conti	cas	ses cases	
<i>b)</i>	Is major regulation drafted or checked by a body within the Gotthan the department which is responsible for the regulation?	overnmen	t other]	
c)	Is lawdrafting conducted or checked by officers of the Parliamen	at or Cong	ress?	1	

Capacities for review and updating of regulations

11. Regulatory review and evaluation

a)	What proportion of the body of existing review of regulatory quality in the past.		the following are	as been subjected	d to a	
	Environmental regulations	A majority	Around half	A minority	Minimal o	r none
	 Health, safety and consumer protection regulations 		Ц	Ц	Ц	
	• Employment regulations					
b)	Is periodic evaluation of existing regula	tions required f	or all policy area	s?	Yes	No
c)	Is "sunsetting" used for laws?		Routinely	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
d)	Is "sunsetting" used for subordinate reg	gulations?	Ō			
e)	Do specific laws include automatic review		?			
Ŋ	Are there standardised evaluation technis reviewed?	iques or decisio	n criteria to be us	sed when regulat	ion	No
			Routinely	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
g)	Is Regulatory Impact Analysis used regulatory reviews?	in the conduct	of \square			
h)	How frequently do major substantive or regulation result from reviews?	changes to exist	ting \Box			
i)	Are cost savings or enhanced benefits d quantified?	ue to these chan	ges \Box			
j)	Is there an independent check on the qu	ality of reviews?				
k)	Are the review processes public?					
l)	Is there a mechanism by which the pregulations? (e.g. Electronic mailboxes,					No
12. <u>R</u>	Reducing administrative burdens				Yes	No
a)	Is there an explicit programme to reduce on enterprises and/or citizens?	e the administr	ative burdens imp	oosed by governn		
	If the answer is "yes": a(ii) Does this programme include quan	ntitative targets':)		Yes	<i>No</i> □
	a(iii) Which of the following strategies	are used (tick a	s many as necesso	ary)?	_	
	 New technologies for regulate 	ory administrati	on (e.g. electronic	c databases)		
	 Streamlining of government p 	process requirem	nents			
	 Reallocating powers and resp between levels of government 		veen government	departments and	l/or 🔲	
	 Other (please specify) 					

13. Business licenses and permits

In this questionnaire, a notification is defined as a requirement for setting up a business calling for (i) providing

	ation to a specific consument outhority and (ii) complying with minimum at	and and a	aa oomditio	
ondu	ation to a specific government authority and (ii) complying with minimum stacting activities. A license or permit is defined as a notification which (ii) also researches by the government authority as a condition for conducting activities.			
			Yes	N
	Is the "silence is consent" rule (i.e. that licenses are issued automatically if the c licensing office has not acted by the end of the statutory response period) used at all?			
<i>b)</i> .	Are there single contact points for getting information on licenses and notifications?			
	Are there single contact points for issuing or accepting on licenses and notification stop shops)?	ons (one-		
	Is there a complete count of the number of permits and licenses required by the government (all ministries and agencies)?	national		
e) .	If yes, what is the number?			
	Is there a programme underway to review and reduce the number of licenses and required by the national government?	d permits		
	Is there a programme underway to co-ordinate the review and reform of permits and at subnational levels of government?	d licenses		
o-or	dination as a tool of reform			
4. <u>C</u> a	o-ordination between levels of government			
		In all	In some	No
a)	Is there a specific procedure for co-ordinating between different levels of	cases	cases	_
u)	government (i.e. sub-national, national, supra-national) in making new regulation?		Ц	_
b)	Is there a specific procedure for co-ordinating between different levels of			
	government (i.e. sub-national, national, supra-national) on regulatory reform			
c)	activity? Is there a policy recommending the adoption of established international attendands instead of mission patients at an dayle?			
	standards instead of unique national standards?			
rain	ing the public service			
	ing the public service			
	•		Yes	N
5. <u>T</u>	ing the public service	o develop		
5. <u>T</u>	ing the public service raining in regulatory reform skills Do formal training programmes exist to better equip civil servants with the skills to	o develop		
5. <u>T</u>	ing the public service raining in regulatory reform skills Do formal training programmes exist to better equip civil servants with the skills to high quality regulation?	o develop		No C

The results of reform

16. <u>Indicators of the result</u>	s of reform								
a) Has a formal evaluatio		he objectives of regulo	atory reform been made	Yes	\square				
If the answer is "yes a(ii) Have reforms me	s": easurably reduced the	total costs imposed by	new regulation?	Yes	No				
a(iii) Have reforms enhanced policy effectiveness?									
a(iv) Have reforms in	creased government tro	ansparency?							
b) Does the government p	ublish an annual prog	ress report on regulat	ory reform						
c) Are there plans underw	vay to improve the effec	ctiveness of the regula	tory reform programm	e? 📮					
→ If the answer is "	yes":								
c(ii) What view of ec in the plan:	ach of the following m	ajor tools of regulator	ry reform policy is refle	ected					
	Favours its further development	Opposes its use or further development	Is satisfied with its current use	Believe it is widely used o well used	or not				
Public consultation									
Regulatory Impact Analysis									
Alternative forms of regulation									
Market based alternatives to regulation									

Glossary of terms

Administrative burdens of regulation

The costs involved in obtaining, reading and understanding regulations, developing compliance strategies and meeting mandated reporting requirements, including data collection, processing, reporting and storage, but **NOT** including the capital costs of measures taken to comply with the regulations.

Administrators responsible for the regulatory reform programme

Policy officials in bodies specifically tasked to manage or monitor the regulatory reform programme within the administration.

Advisory Groups

Selected experts and/or interested parties (e.g. social partners, environmental groups) are brought together to form a consultative body, either on an *ad hoc* or a standing basis.

Appeal

Right of an individual or firm to request reconsideration of an administrative decision regarding regulatory administration or enforcement where the decision is believed not to be in accordance with the terms of the governing legislation or to be manifestly unjust in its outcome. It may be required that a *prima facie* reason for believing there has been an injustice be shown in order for the appeal to proceed. A **judicial review** means that the appeal will be to a court of law. An **administrative review to an independent party** means that an administrative tribunal independent of the regulatory body making the decision will review the decision, to be distinguished from an **administrative review by the regulatory enforcement body**.

Circulation of proposals for comment

Information on regulatory proposals is circulated to a selected group of experts and/or interested parties for comment.

"Command and Control" regulation

Regulation which mandates detailed and prescriptive requirements. It is "input based".

Co-regulation

A system of shared regulatory responsibilities in which an industry association or professional group will assume some regulatory functions, such as surveillance and enforcement or setting of regulatory standards.

Independent scrutiny

Scrutiny of regulatory impact analysis, lawdrafting, or other aspects of the lawmaking process by a body <u>internal to government but external to the department or agency charged with preparing and implementing the regulation.</u> A Ministry of Economics may, for example, scrutinise the business impacts of regulations made by other ministries.

Informal Consultation

Ad hoc meetings with selected interested parties, held at the discretion of regulators.

Laws

Laws are regulations which must be approved by the Parliament or Congress. They are also referred to as "primary legislation" or as "principal legislation", or simply as "legislation".

Performance based regulation

Regulation that specifies objectives or "output standards" and that leaves the means of compliance to be determined by the regulated entity.

Process regulation

Regulation that requires that individual enterprises set up and document systemic processes to identify and control certain risks or hazards within their own activities. Such processes are based on Quality Assurance principles.

Public Notice and Comment

Notice of the intention to regulate is published and comments are sought from all interested parties.

Regulators

Administrators in government departments and other agencies responsible for making regulation.

Regulatory Impact Analysis.

Systematic process of identification and quantification of important impacts likely to flow from adoption of a proposed regulation or a non-regulatory policy option under consideration. May be based on benefit/cost analysis, cost effectiveness analysis, business impact analysis etc..

Risk assessment

Quantitative estimates of the risks and consequences involved in a particular problem, probably including estimates of the likely effectiveness of control measures.

SMEs

Small and Medium-scale Enterprises.

Specialist lawdrafter

Someone with significant training (either formal or "on the job"), experience and expertise in the technical aspects of the drafting of legislation.

Subordinate regulations

Subordinate regulations are regulations that can be approved by the head of government, by an individual Minister or by the Cabinet - that is, by an authority other than the Parliament/Congress. Note that many subordinate regulations are susceptible to disallowance by the Congress/Parliament. Subordinate regulations are also referred to as "secondary legislation".

Sunsetting

The automatic repeal of regulations a certain number of years after they have come into force.

Voluntary commitments

Commitments by firms to reach certain targets or behave in certain ways not mandated by legislation. May be agreed to in exchange for certain other government benefits (e.g. reduced frequency of regulatory inspections).