Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

38th ANNUAL MEETING OF OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Lisbon, Portugal
1-2 June 2017

The meeting is kindly hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Finance.

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38th Annual Meeting of Senior Budget Officials
Lisbon, 1-2 June 2017

AGENDA

Wednesday, 31 May 2017

17:50-19:30  Welcome Reception Hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Finance

Thursday, 1 June 2017

8:30-9:00  Registration and Collection of Badges

9:00-9:15  Opening by Chair
Delegates’ Introductions

9:15-9:30  Opening Remarks by Portuguese Minister of Finance
• Mr. Mário CENTENO

9:30-9:45  Opening Remarks by OECD Deputy Secretary-General
• Ms. Mari KIVINIELI

9:45-10:30  Budget Profile of Portugal
The Ministry of Finance will provide an overview of the Portuguese public finance management system, including the reforms currently being undertaken in the context of the new Budget Framework Law.

10:30-11:00  Family Photo and Coffee Break

11:00-11:45  Economic Environment
This session will feature the OECD’s assessment of current, medium-term and long-term macroeconomic and fiscal prospects in OECD countries and beyond.

11:45-12:45  Concept Note: OECD Budgeting Outlook
The OECD Secretariat will present a concept note for a proposed new flagship publication, the OECD Budgeting Outlook, to disseminate key pillars of the SBO work more effectively. It would build on the previous Restoring Public Finances, State of Public Finances and Budgeting Practices and Procedures publications, and involve a streamlining of the existing surveys / questionnaires. It will also outline how the outcome of subsequent sessions at the meeting will feature in such a publication.

12:45-14:15  Luncheon hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Finance
14:15-15:45  **Public Sector Productivity**

The session responds to a call by the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in 2016. Following an introduction by the Secretariat, it will discuss current country initiatives to measure public sector productivity, as well as challenges in measuring public sector productivity – including the collection of relevant data and comparisons over time and across countries. It also aims to identify drivers of public sector productivity and how countries can maximise their impact. It will also explore the contribution of the public sector to the overall productivity of the economy.

15:45-16:15  **Coffee Break**

16:15-17:45  **Best Practices for Performance Budgeting**

Performance budgeting is a deceptively simple concept and its successful implementation has proven elusive in many countries. The Secretariat will present a set of draft Best Practices for Performance Budgeting based on analysis of reform experiences – successes and challenges – in OECD countries, as well as discussions at the SBO and its Network on Performance and Results. The floor will then be opened for discussion among Delegates.

18:15  **Tour of Historic Lisbon and Gala Dinner hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Finance**
Friday, 2 June 2017

9:30-11:00 New Parliamentary Budget Procedures and Independent Fiscal Institutions

In many OECD countries, significant changes have taken place in Parliament’s involvement in the budget process in recent years, including the introduction of a separate earlier discussion of budget aggregates and a new division of responsibilities between budget committees and sectoral committees. At the same time, the growth of independent fiscal institutions – whose mandates and resources vary greatly – has been a profound institutional change across OECD countries. Following an introduction by the Secretariat, this session is designed for Delegates to discuss the impact of these changes.

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Architecture of Fiscal Reporting

Many governments are modernising the structure and format of their fiscal reports in order to present information in a more user-friendly manner. This involves identifying and addressing the needs of the various users of fiscal reports and rationalizing their length, content and presentation. It also involves a look at the interrelationship of the various fiscal reports in order to avoid unnecessary duplication.

The Secretariat will present the lessons learned in this area, based on the analysis of several detailed country case studies and discussion at the SBO Network of Senior Financial Management Officials, as the basis for discussion among Delegates.

13:00-14:30 Luncheon hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Finance

14:30-15:30 Chair’s Roundtable

The Chair will invite Delegates to make brief presentations on specific recent budgeting and public expenditure developments in their respective countries that he would like to draw to the attention of all Delegates.

15:30-16:30 Report on Relevant Activities and Future Work

The Secretariat will provide a report on relevant activities since the last meeting of the Working Party, including horizontal projects. It will also highlight the activities of each of the SBO subsidiary bodies.

Delegates will then be asked to identify future work priorities for the OECD’s Programme of Work in the area of budgeting and public expenditures, and indicate their interest in particular studies.

16:30 Closing by Chairman and Secretariat
GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Format of Discussion
Each session will open with one or more lead presentations. These should be no more than 15 minutes in length. This will be followed by several rounds of questions and comments by Delegates. Please limit each intervention to no more than 5 minutes in order to foster discussion.

Venue - Meeting Location
The meeting will take place at the Salão Nobre in the landmark Portuguese Ministry of Finance building. It is located at 1, Avenida Infante D. Henrique (close to Terreiro do Paço / Praça do Comércio) in central Lisbon.

Accommodations
The Portuguese authorities have arranged preferential rates for Delegates at the hotels listed on the Logistical Information Note (provided separately).

Registration Form
All Delegates need to complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat. 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.

Welcome Reception
The Portuguese Ministry of Finance invites all Delegates to a Welcome Reception on the eve of the meeting, Wednesday, 31 May, at 5:50 p.m. at the Fado Museum (www.museudofado.pt). It is located at 1, Largo do Chafariz de Dentro in the typical neighbourhood of Alfama.

Tour of Historic Lisbon and Gala Dinner
The Portuguese Ministry of Finance invites all Delegates to a Gala Dinner at the conclusion of the first day of the meeting, Thursday, 1 June. The dinner will take place at Centro Cultural de Belém. (www.ccb.pt/Default/en/Homepage). Transportation to and from the dinner will be provided, which will incorporate a bus tour of historic Lisbon. The buses will leave from the Ministry of Finance building a 6:15 p.m. upon conclusion of the first day of the meeting.

Please confirm your attendance by completing the appropriate “Social Activities” box on the registration form.

Entry Formalities
Delegates are advised to confirm any necessary visa requirements for entry in to Portugal.

Documentation
Background documents will be available for all substantive sessions of the meeting. The documents will be distributed electronically to all registered Delegates prior to the meeting.