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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

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English - Or. English

**PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

34th ANNUAL MEETING OF OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND REGISTRATION FORM

**OECD Conference Centre,
Paris, 3-4 June 2013**

Chairman: Mr. Gerhard STEGER, Director-General, Budget and Public Finance, Ministry of Finance, Austria.

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34th ANNUAL MEETING OF OECD SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS

Paris, France • 3-4 June 2013

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Monday, 3 June 2013

9:00-9:15 **Opening by Chairman and OECD Secretariat**
Introductions by Delegates

9:15-9:30 **Welcome Address – *Creating Fiscal Space***
• **Mr. Mario MARCEL**, Deputy Director, OECD/GOV

9:30-11:00 **The 2012 OECD Budgeting Survey – Overview of Key Findings**

Budget practices are under constant review to ensure they are well-suited to evolving fiscal and economic requirements. The Secretariat will present the results of the 2012 OECD Budgeting Survey which offers a comprehensive overview of the institutional framework, practices and procedures for budgeting across OECD countries, and of how these frameworks have been adapted and applied to the needs of the fiscal crisis. On the basis of the findings, the Secretariat will also present an outline for the future development of OECD principles for good budget practices.

Following the presentations, the floor will be opened for questions and comments, and guidance from Delegates about the development of principles.

11:00-11:30 *Coffee Break*

11:30-13:00 **Fiscal Risk and Budget Transparency**

With the increased scrutiny of government balance sheets in recent times, there is an impetus towards greater recognition and disclosure of contingent liabilities and fiscal risks. While budget transparency is itself a core budgeting principle, there are different practices and perspectives about its useful limits in this area - in particular given the range and variety of such risks and liabilities, and of their substantive aspect in a budgeting context.

The *OECD Best Practices for Budget Transparency* were promulgated in 2002. The OECD commissioned a review of their continued appropriateness and to identify areas for improvement, if any. The conclusions of this review will be presented. Following the presentations, the floor will be opened for questions and comments by Delegates.

13:00-14:30 *Lunch*

14:30-15:00 The Evolving Role of Budgeting and of the Budget Office – *Topics*

In this session, **Mr. Allen SCHICK** will offer his observations on how the role of the budget office, and of the budgeting process itself, is evolving. For example: How has the crisis impacted their role? How have relations evolved with other players in the budget process, particularly enlarged Centres of Government? With growing moves towards top-down budgeting, what has happened to the control function? Does the budget office have sufficient leverage and information? How has the budget office been affected by growing parliamentary independence and greater budget research capacity? If relevant, how have independent fiscal institutions affected the budget office? How are media relations evolving, including the rise of social media?

15:00-16:00 The Evolving Role of Budgeting and of the Budget Office – *Discussion*

Taking the cues from the previous discussion, Delegates will be invited to participate in four breakout sessions to share their insights and experiences and identify the key priorities for the future evolution of the budget offices.

A range of complementary topics will be dealt with in parallel in the breakout sessions. Their purpose is to stimulate focused debate in a smaller setting.

16:00-16:30 *Coffee Break*

16:30-18:00 The Evolving Role of Budgeting and of the Budget Office – *Conclusions*

The key conclusions will be reported through a Panel discussion with the chairs of the breakout sessions. The conclusions should be focused upon implications for national budget offices and reflect on the implications for the OECD's future work programme being discussed tomorrow afternoon.

from 18:00 Cocktail reception hosted by the OECD Secretariat

**European Launch of IMF's Publication on
*Public Financial Management and Its Emerging Architecture***

The International Monetary Fund recently produced a major publication entitled *Public Financial Management and Its Emerging Architecture* which reflects on the past two decades of public finance management reform. The authors discuss what these reforms have accomplished and the issues and challenges that have been encountered, including those from the global financial and economic crisis. The European launch of this publication will coincide with the 34th Annual Meeting of OECD Senior Budget Officials. Mr. Marco Cangiano, one of the editors of the publication will introduce it during the Conclusions of the Evolving Role of Budgeting and of the Budget Office session and join the Panel discussion.

Tuesday, 4 June 2013

9:30-11:00 Use of Spending Reviews

Several OECD countries have long-standing systems in place to review overall expenditure (including tax expenditure) and to assist the multi-year allocation of resources. Since the onset of the global financial and fiscal crisis, more countries have been using such reviews as a key element in their fiscal toolkit. Grounded upon the latest evidence from the OECD Budgeting Survey, this session will provide an overview of recent experience of implementing spending reviews, including their more targeted application in particular sectors and their role in the political economy of fiscal consolidation.

Following a lead presentation, Delegates will be invited to share their experiences and insights.

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Developments in Performance Budgeting

Over the past decade, various OECD countries have endeavoured to address the performance aspects of budgeting – public service outputs and impacts – with greater or lesser degrees of traction upon resource allocation. More recently, debate has shifted towards performance as an issue of governance and management, rather than an issue that can be adequately managed through the budgeting process alone. Following an orientation from Secretariat based on the OECD Budgeting Survey, **Mr. Allen SCHICK** will offer his insights on developments in performance budgeting.

Following his presentation, Delegates will be invited to exchange their experiences and views in this area.

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 Future Work Programme

The Secretariat will highlight the conclusions of the Meeting of the OECD Council at Ministerial Level, which will take place the previous week in Paris to discuss concrete solutions to restore growth with an important emphasis on “Jobs, Equality and Trust”.

The Secretariat will provide a general report on its activities since the last meeting of the Working Party, including an update on the work of each of the SBO subsidiary bodies and the SBO regional networks throughout the world. The SBO regional networks have played a key role in the development of the OECD’s Global Relations.

Delegates will be asked to share their views on the strategic future orientations for the SBO - and its contributions to the OECD - and to identify immediate priorities and indicate their interest in particular studies. The Secretariat will present proposals based on the conclusion of yesterday afternoon’s session to launch the discussion.

16:00 Closing by Chairman and OECD Secretariat

GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting Location

The meeting will take place at the OECD Conference Centre which is located at 2 rue André-Pascal in the 16th *arrondissement* (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “*La Muette*.”

Registration Form

All Delegates need to complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat ahead of the meeting.

Security

Please be advised that OECD Headquarters is a secure complex. **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.** Delegates will also be required to clear an airport-style security checkpoint for entry. Please allow at least 15 minutes to complete these formalities.

Simultaneous Translation

Simultaneous translation between English and French, the OECD’s two official languages, will be available throughout the meeting.

Cocktail Reception

The OECD Secretariat invites all participants to a cocktail reception in the *Château de la Muette* at the conclusion of the first day of the meeting.

Wi-Fi Internet Access

The OECD Conference Centre features complimentary Wi-Fi Internet Access in all meeting rooms and throughout its facilities. The Conference Centre also has facilities offering complimentary desktop computers with standard Microsoft Office software, Internet connections and printers.

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ORGANISATION DE
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ÉCONOMIQUES

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REGISTRATION FORM

(TO BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PARTICIPANT)

Mr. [] Mrs. [] Ms. []

LAST NAME (in BLOCK letters) _____

First Name _____

JOB TITLE _____

ORGANISATION _____

MAILING
ADDRESS _____

COUNTRY _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please return the completed form to Mrs. H el ene LECONTE-LUCAS
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