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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques  
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**English - Or. English**

**COUNCIL**

**Council**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE PUBLIC  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**(Note by the Secretary-General)**

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1. The current mandate for the Public Governance Committee (hereafter the “PGC”), last revised in 2009, expires on 31 December 2014 [[C\(2009\)170 and C/M\(2009\)23, Item 316](#)]. Established in 1960, the “Technical Assistance Committee” became the “Public Management Committee” in 1989 [C(89)92(Final)], and was renamed the PGC in 2003, reflecting a new understanding of the full implications of public governance [[C\(2003\)206](#)]. An In-Depth Evaluation (IDE) of the PGC was conducted in 2009 and led to a number of recommendations [[C\(2009\)35](#) and [C\(2009\)35/CORR2](#)], that were subsequently implemented by the PGC. The Council noted that the resulting PGC Action Plan presented in 2010 [[GOV/PGC\(2010\)12](#)] was appropriate [[C\(2011\)4](#)].

2. During the current mandate of the Committee, the Chair of the PGC has participated in a dialogue with Council held on 12 May 2012, which followed previous dialogues in 2004 and 2007. The PGC also held a meeting at Ministerial level in Venice in 2010 [[C\(2010\)36/REV1](#) and [C\(2010\)155](#)], which resulted in a formal Communiqué giving strategic directions for its future work [[GOV/PGC/MIN\(2010\)4/FINAL](#)].

3. The PGC discussed the renewal of its mandate at its meeting in April 2014 and commented on the text of the revised mandate, underlining the importance of public institutions and of creating public sector capacity [[GOV/PGC\(2014\)5](#)]. The draft revised mandate is also in line with the last Ministerial Council commitment to “*rebuild trust in governments, markets and institutions, combating corruption, promoting open government, and ensuring transparency in policy making*” [[C/MIN\(2013\)16/FINAL](#), paragraph 5]. The draft revised mandate was approved by the Public Governance Committee at its 50<sup>th</sup> session on 14 November 2014 for transmission to Council [[GOV/PGC\(2014\)21](#)]. The main substantive changes to the mandate are as follows:

- A full acknowledgement of the importance of strategic, evidence-based and innovative policies to strengthen public governance and public sector institutions (intermediary objectives i, ii and iv);
- A focus on identifying institutional conditions for inclusive growth and resilient economies taking into account fiscal constraints (intermediary objective iii);
- The recognition of the role of the PGC in strengthening policy making through greater steering capacity (intermediary objective iv);
- A full recognition of the need for engaging with citizens, for strengthening trust, openness, transparency and integrity, as well as for developing skills, fostering innovation and making the most of new technologies (intermediary objective v);
- A stronger focus on public governance standards and the role of peer reviews in helping to assess performance and facilitate policy implementation (intermediary objective vii);
- A new understanding of the importance of managing critical risks (intermediary objective vi);
- An understanding of the increased importance for promoting an open policy dialogue on public sector reform issues, including engaging with non-Members and a wide range of stakeholders (intermediary objective viii).

4. In addition to substantive changes, historic references to the Committee’s establishment and important milestones of its life have been streamlined in the Preamble, while a reference to the Resolution of the Council on Partnership in OECD Bodies [[C\(2012\)100/FINAL](#)] has been included to conform with current presentation practice for Level-I Committee mandates.

5. In line with Rule 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee conducted a review of its substructure over the summer/autumn 2014 prior to the renewal of its mandate.

6. The substructure includes:
- the **Senior Officials from Centres of Government (CoG)**, established in 1980;
  - the **Working Party of Senior Budget Officials (SBO)**, established in 1980;
  - the **Working Party of Senior Public Integrity Officials (SPIO)**, formerly known as the Network on Public Sector Integrity, established in 2002 as the Expert Group on Conflict of interest;
  - the **Working Party of Public Employment and Management (PEM)**, formerly known as the Network on Public Employment and Management, established in 1985;
  - the **Working Party of Senior Digital Government Officials (E Leaders)**, formerly known as the Network on E-Government or Network of Senior E-Government Officials, established in 2003.
7. The review of the Substructure also identified:
- the critical role played by the **High Level Risk Forum (HLRF)**, particularly in supporting the development and monitoring of the implementation of the Recommendation of the Council on the Governance of Critical Risks [[C/MIN\(2014\)8/FINAL](#)] and as a platform for cooperation on Risk Governance issues;
  - the key role of the **Leading Practitioners on Public Procurement (LPP)**, in providing general policy guidance for public procurement continuous improvement, and not just on integrity issues, sharpening the policy dialogue with the private sector and in the G20 framework, as well as in supporting the development and the future monitoring of the implementation of the draft Recommendation of the Council on Public Procurement [[GOV/PGC\(2014\)18](#)].
8. The conclusions of the review of the Committee's substructure were that it remains relevant and would continue to support the Committee in delivering its revised mandate over the next five-year period. However, the need for some updates and adjustments in the mandates of the substructure bodies was identified, as well as the need to formalise the two above-mentioned bodies (HLRF and LPP), which have operated for some time and whose continuation would be necessary to further support the PGC in carrying out its mandate.
9. The modifications of the mandates of the subsidiary bodies reflect the increased importance of institutions, processes and good practice standards for policy performance, which has greatly increased since the start of the global financial crisis in 2008, and the search for greater efficiency and effectiveness of government, in a new context of citizens' expectations. These also incorporate the insights gathered through the New Approaches of Economic Challenges (NAEC) initiative, which has led to the call for more precise good governance standards.
10. A notification on the establishment of the HLRF and the LPP has been transmitted to the Executive Committee [[CE\(2014\)6](#)], further to the approval of their formalisation in the context of the 50<sup>th</sup> PGC meeting [[GOV/PGC\(2014\)24](#)].
11. It is proposed that the revised mandate, as set out in the draft Resolution in the Annex hereto, remain in force for a period of five years, until 31 December 2019, unless the Council decides otherwise. The draft Resolution would supersede all previous provisions concerning the mandate of the Committee. The Committee would return to the Council to propose a revision to its mandate should there be any major developments that warrant such a change.

**Proposed Action**

12. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document [C\(2014\)152](#);
- b) adopted the draft Resolution of the Council revising the mandate of the Public Governance Committee as set out in the Annex to document [C\(2014\)152](#), which will enter into force on 1 January 2015.

## ANNEX

**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to paragraph 15 of the Report of the Preparatory Committee concerning the creation of a “Technical Assistance Committee”, which became the “Public Management Committee” in 1989 [C(89)92(Final)], and most recently the “Public Governance Committee” in 2004 [[C\(2003\)206](#)], whose mandate was last revised in 2009 [[C\(2009\)170](#)];

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [[C\(2012\)100/FINAL](#)];

Having regard to the recommendations of the In-depth Evaluation of the Public Governance Committee [[C\(2009\)35](#) and CORR2];

Considering the Communiqué from the Ministerial Meeting of the Public Governance Committee, *The Call for Innovative and Open Government*, held in Venice in 2010 [[GOV/PGC/MIN\(2010\)4/FINAL](#)];

Having regard to the Ministerial Council Statement of the 2013 OECD Ministerial meeting, where Ministers “*reaffirm[ed] their commitment to rebuilding trust in governments, markets and institutions, strengthening financial regulation, combating corruption, promoting open government, and ensuring transparency in policy making*” [[C/MIN\(2013\)16/FINAL](#), paragraph 5];

Having regard to the Ministerial Council Statement of the 2014 OECD Ministerial meeting, where Ministers “*underscor[ed] the importance of rebuilding public trust through greater openness, transparency and accountability of governments, including by combating corruption [...] and look[ed] forward to the OECD’s strategic approaches to risk management to help governments strengthen their resilience*” [[C/MIN\(2014\)15/FINAL](#)], paragraph 6];

Recognising the crucial importance of good public governance for creating the conditions for inclusive growth, raising trust in public institutions, helping to build resilient economies, improving people’s well-being, fostering core public values, strengthening pluralistic democracy and sustaining the rule of law;

Recognising the need for strategic direction and fiscal sustainability in a global and interconnected world economy, and to face unprecedented pressures, including the challenges of climate and long term societal change;

Recognising the contribution of the public sector to the economy, including realising the potential of public sector innovation for improved problem solving, greater efficiency and productivity, better quality of service to citizens;

Recognising the critical roles of sound strategic governance frameworks and the need to ensure cross-sectoral policy co-ordination, skills and capacity in the public sector, and to seize the potential of digital technologies;

Recognising the challenges of policy implementation, to ensure that public governance reforms and innovations are practical, context-dependent and country-specific, addressing the same long-term goals;

Recognising the shared interest for governance in development as a mutually beneficial investment for all countries;

Having regard to the proposed revision of the mandate of the Public Governance Committee [\[C\(2014\)152\]](#);

DECIDES:

A. The Public Governance Committee (hereafter the “Committee”) is renewed with the following revised mandate:

### **I. Objectives**

a) The objective of the Committee is to assist Members and Partners in designing and implementing strategic, evidence-based and innovative policies to strengthen public governance, public sector institutions, responding to economic, social and environmental challenges, and delivering on government’s commitments to citizens through greater public sector capacity.

b) The intermediary objectives of the Committee include:

- i) identifying the current and emerging strategic public governance challenges that governments face;
- ii) building and maintaining a body of robust quantitative and qualitative data and indicators on public sector inputs, processes, outputs, outcomes and performance, for carrying out comparative evidence-based analysis;
- iii) identifying the institutional conditions for inclusive growth and resilient economies taking into account fiscal constraints and offering guidance on good practices;
- iv) assisting countries in strengthening policy making through greater steering capacity, based on a whole-of-government approach and grounded in the core values of the public sector;
- v) helping governments in developing an effective, efficient and responsive public sector, including developing necessary skills, fostering innovation, and making the most of new technologies;
- vi) offering guidance for strengthening trust, openness, transparency and integrity, engaging with citizens and civil society and strengthening the capacity to manage critical risks;
- vii) establishing standards of good public governance and assessing the performance of countries’ public sectors through peer reviews;
- viii) promoting a platform for open policy dialogue within the public sector, engaging with relevant stakeholders, including citizens, the private sector, parliaments and international organisations, and engaging with non-Members on a global dialogue on the role of governance in development.

## **II. Co-operation arrangements**

a) The Committee shall co-operate with other committees on matters related to public governance and participate in horizontal activities, in particular in the area of development. It will in particular seek close co-operation with the other committees, served by the same Directorate.

b) The Committee shall keep itself informed of the activities related to public governance and management carried out in other international organisations. It will promote and develop, as practicable, partnerships with these organisations and seek to ensure effective complementarities while avoiding undue duplication with other international organisations as appropriate.

c) The Committee shall consider the views and input of Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) and other major stakeholders in the field of public governance.

d) The Committee shall encourage participation by non-Members in the Committee's work and shall engage in cooperation activities of mutual benefit with non-Members, either individually or through regional networks.

B. The mandate of the Public Governance Committee shall remain in force until 31 December 2019.