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CENTRE FOR CO-OPERATION WITH NON-MEMBERS  
STEEL COMMITTEE

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Emerging Market Economy Forum

**WORKSHOP ON STEEL TRADE ISSUES: DRAFT AGENDA**

**To be held at the Chateau de la Muette, Paris, on Wednesday, 27 May 1998 and continuing on Thursday, 28 May 1998.**

*Please note that in spirit of paper saving and environmental protection, extra copies of the documents sent through OLIS two weeks before the meeting will not be available in the meeting room. Delegates are invited to bring the copies they receive through OLIS or paper mail, or to obtain further copies from their respective Delegations to the OECD.*

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## DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE WORKSHOP ON STEEL TRADE ISSUES

### I. Opening statements

[Wednesday, 09.30-09.45]

The Deputy Secretary-General, or his representative, will open the meeting. Following his introductory remarks, the Chairman of the Steel Committee will provide further information on the Workshop and provide Workshop participants with an opportunity to make general comments.

*Note: The sessions on “Perspectives on steel markets and trade”, “The situation in steel trade: Country reports”, “Steel trade and globalisation”, and “Market access and trade facilitation issues” will be similarly structured. A session Chairman will introduce the topics to be addressed in each session, following which lead speakers will make brief presentations. An open discussion in which all Workshop attendees can participate will then follow.*

### II. Perspectives on steel markets and trade

[Wednesday, 09.45-13.00]

#### Principal issues:

- Asia-Pacific area: How will the economic crises in this area affect steel consumption, production and trade? How will investment and capacity (in steel) be affected? Will fundamental changes occur in the way governments and the industry view the future for the steel industry? What new strategies are being considered? What are the implications for other countries, both within and outside the Asia-Pacific area?
- CIS area: To what extent will CIS steel producers continue to rely on exports to maintain their operations? With demand prospects for the Asia-Pacific area in doubt, what alternative markets are available? Concerns have been expressed in many countries about CIS steel exports. What problems are occurring and what trade and adjustment policies can be pursued to improve the situation?
- World steel trade: What are the prospects for world steel trade? Are the objectives being pursued by companies and countries compatible, or are further tensions likely? What are the principal problems or challenges in world steel trade today?

**III. The situation in steel trade: Country reports**

[Wednesday, 14.30-18.00]

<b>Principal issues</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What role are steel exports and imports currently playing in countries? What are the overall government trade objectives for the sector? How are import and export levels likely to change?</li> <li>• What trade and trade-related policies are governments pursuing in steel in support of their industries? What trade measures are currently in effect in steel?</li> <li>• To what extent are steel companies in countries benefiting from government assistance (such as loans on preferential terms, grants, tax concessions, etc.)?</li> <li>• How are the policies being pursued in steel affecting competitive conditions in the industry? What are the effects on trade, producers and consumers?</li> </ul>

**IV. Steel trade and globalisation**

[Thursday, 09.30-13.00]

<b>Principal issues</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the forces driving the growth in global alliances in steel? Is this growth likely to continue? If so, in what forms?</li> <li>• How is the growth in global alliances likely to affect competitive conditions in the industry? Will it weaken or strengthen competition? How will it affect industry efficiency? How will investment be affected? What policy issues need to be addressed in this regard?</li> </ul>

**V. Market access and trade facilitation issues**

[Thursday, 14.30-17.45]

<b>Principal issues</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How will the changes that have been made in the rules governing international trade (as a result of the Uruguay Round) affect steel trade? In particular, what effects will the new agreements on safeguards, antidumping, and subsidies and countervailing measures have on trade and competition in steel? To what extent are dumping, subsidies and informal trade restraints currently affecting steel trade?</li><li>• What other issues need to be addressed in the field of steel trade at the national and/or multilateral levels?</li><li>• How can the gains from freer trade in steel be maximised? What complementary policies are needed to facilitate adjustment in areas where the industry will contract?</li><li>• What are the principal impediments to freer trade in steel? How can governments and producer and consumer interests work more effectively together to overcome these impediments?</li></ul>

**VI. Concluding remarks**

[Thursday, 17.45 - 18.00]

The Chairman of the Steel Committee will provide commentary on the Workshop, following which there will be an opportunity for general discussion among Workshop participants.