

Unclassified

GOV/PGC/SBO(2004)3



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

05-Feb-2004

English - Or. English

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

GOV/PGC/SBO(2004)3
Unclassified

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

4th ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM --

ACCRUAL PRACTICES IN OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES

Excerpts from OECD Budgeting Database

**OECD Headquarters, Paris
9-10 February 2004**

The information in the Budgeting Database is based on responses from member countries to a Secretariat questionnaire. Please update this information as appropriate.

For further information, please contact Jon BLONDAL
Tel: +33-1 45 24 76 59; Fax: +33-1 45 24 87 96; Email: jon.blondal@oecd.org

JT00157833

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

English - Or. English

1.1.a What types of appropriation are used in the budget?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : <u>Obligation</u> (or Commitment)-based - right to make commitments in the budget year and make cash payments without a predetermined time limit.	12	30.7 %	28
A2 : Cash-based only - authority to make cash payments over a limited period of time (annually).	23	58.9 %	64
A3 : Accrual-based only - cover the full cost of the operations of a ministry or agency and increases in liabilities or decreases in assets.	2	5.1 %	8
A4 : Both Cash and Accruals	11	28.2 %	24

	A1	A2	A3	A4
AUSTRALIA			X	
AUSTRIA		X		
BELGIUM	X	X		
CANADA		X		
CHILE				X
CZECH REPUBLIC		X		
DENMARK	X	X		
FINLAND	X			X
GERMANY		X		
GREECE		X		
HUNGARY	X	X		
ICELAND				X
IRELAND		X		
ISRAEL	X	X		
ITALY	X			X
JAPAN		X		
KOREA		X		
MEXICO		X		
NETHERLANDS	X			X
NEW ZEALAND			X	
NORWAY		X		
PORTUGAL		X		
SLOVENIA		X		
SOUTH AFRICA		X		
SPAIN		X		
SWEDEN				X
TURKEY		X		
UNITED KINGDOM				X
UNITED STATES	X			

PART 4. ACCOUNTING, CONTROL AND MONITORING SYSTEMS

4.2. Budgeting, Accounting and Financial reporting

4.2.a Is there a unified accounting and budgeting classification system?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Yes	35	85.3 %	81.4 %
A2 : No	6	14.6 %	18.5 %

	A1	A2
AUSTRALIA	X	
AUSTRIA	X	
BELGIUM	X	
CANADA		X
CHILE	X	
CZECH REPUBLIC	X	
DENMARK	X	
FINLAND	X	
FRANCE	X	
GERMANY	X	
GREECE	X	
HUNGARY	X	
ICELAND	X	
IRELAND	X	
ISRAEL	X	
ITALY	X	
JAPAN		X
KOREA		X
MEXICO	X	
NETHERLANDS	X	
NEW ZEALAND	X	
NORWAY	X	
PORTUGAL	X	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X	
SLOVENIA	X	
SOUTH AFRICA	X	
SPAIN		X
SWEDEN	X	
TURKEY		X
UNITED KINGDOM	X	
UNITED STATES	X	

4.2.b How are the technical standards for the budget and related documents determined?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority determines standards following recommendations by formal advisory board	9	21.9 %	22.2 %
A2 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority appoints an independent standards board to determine the standards to be used.	0	0	0
A3 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority determines them internally	26	63.4 %	59.2 %
A4 : Private Sector Standards Body determines them (Government organisation follow standards applicable to all sectors of economy)	0	0	0
A5 : Independently appointed public sector standards body determines them	0	0	0
A6 : Single accounting standards body covering both public and private sectors	3	7.3 %	7.4 %
A7 : Other, please specify	4	9.7 %	14.8 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7
AUSTRALIA						X	X
AUSTRIA			X				
BELGIUM	X						
CANADA	X						
CHILE			X				
CZECH REPUBLIC			X				
DENMARK							X
FINLAND			X				
FRANCE							X
GERMANY			X				
GREECE			X				
HUNGARY	X						
ICELAND	X						
IRELAND			X				
ISRAEL	X						
ITALY			X				
JAPAN							X
KOREA	X						
MEXICO			X				
NETHERLANDS			X				
NEW ZEALAND						X	
NORWAY			X				
PORTUGAL			X				
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X				
SLOVENIA			X				
SOUTH AFRICA	X						
SPAIN	X						
SWEDEN			X				
TURKEY			X				
UNITED KINGDOM			X				
UNITED STATES			X				

4.2.c If the budget is on a cash or obligations/commitments basis with some exceptions treated on accrual basis, then what transactions are treated on an accrual basis?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Interest on government debt is treated on an accrual basis	10	47.6 %	41.6 %
A2 : Civil Service Pension Plans are treated on an accrual basis	3	14.2 %	25
A3 : Wages and Salaries are treated on an accrual basis	4	19.0 %	16.6 %
A4 : Cost of loan programmes	5	23.8 %	25
A5 : Other, please specify	11	52.3 %	66.6 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
AUSTRALIA	X	X	X	X	
CHILE					X
DENMARK					X
FINLAND	X	X	X	X	
GREECE	X				
IRELAND					X
ITALY					X
KOREA					X
MEXICO					X
NEW ZEALAND					X
PORTUGAL	X				
SWEDEN					X
UNITED STATES	X	X		X	X

4.2.d Are there plans to change the basis of accounting the budget is approved on?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Yes, Full <u>Accrual Basis</u> Budgeting to be introduced	5	12.1 %	7.4 %
A2 : Yes, Additional <u>Accrual Basis</u> information to be presented	11	26.8 %	33.3 %
A3 : No, a full accrual basis has been considered and rejected	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A4 : Yes, to obligations or commitments basis	2	4.8 %	0
A5 : No, an obligations or commitments basis has been considered and rejected	0	0	0
A6 : No	16	39.0 %	44.4 %
A7 : Other, please specify	7	17.0 %	14.8 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7
AUSTRALIA						X	
AUSTRIA						X	
BELGIUM	X						
CANADA							X
CHILE	X						
CZECH REPUBLIC						X	
DENMARK	X						
FINLAND		X					X
FRANCE		X					
GERMANY						X	
GREECE		X					
HUNGARY		X					
ICELAND			X				
IRELAND						X	
ISRAEL		X					
ITALY						X	
JAPAN						X	
KOREA		X					
MEXICO						X	
NETHERLANDS		X					
NEW ZEALAND						X	
NORWAY							X
PORTUGAL		X					
SLOVAK REPUBLIC		X					
SLOVENIA		X					
SOUTH AFRICA							X
SPAIN						X	
SWEDEN							X
TURKEY		X					
UNITED KINGDOM						X	
UNITED STATES						X	

4.2.e Is there a statement of the accounting basis (e.g., cash or accruals) and the accounting policies adopted in the government budget?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : A full statement is provided indicating any changes in practices as well as current policy	17	42.5 %	44.4 %
A2 : A partial statement is provided	11	27.5 %	29.6 %
A3 : No statement is provided	12	30	25.9 %

	A1	A2	A3
AUSTRALIA	X		
AUSTRIA			X
BELGIUM			X
CANADA	X		
CHILE		X	
CZECH REPUBLIC	X		
DENMARK	X		
FINLAND	X		
FRANCE		X	
GERMANY			X
GREECE			X
HUNGARY		X	
ICELAND		X	
IRELAND	X		
ISRAEL	X		
ITALY			X
JAPAN		X	
KOREA		X	
MEXICO		X	
NETHERLANDS	X		
NEW ZEALAND	X		
NORWAY		X	
PORTUGAL	X		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X		
SLOVENIA			X
SOUTH AFRICA		X	
SPAIN			X
SWEDEN			X
TURKEY	X		
UNITED KINGDOM		X	
UNITED STATES	X		

4.2.f Does the accounting system include all domestic and externally financed transactions?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Not comprehensive in either case	4	10.2 %	8
A2 : Domestic coverage is comprehensive but externally financed transactions are only partially covered	4	10.2 %	12
A3 : Comprehensive coverage of all transactions	31	79.4 %	80

	A1	A2	A3
AUSTRALIA			X
AUSTRIA		X	
BELGIUM			X
CANADA			X
CHILE			X
CZECH REPUBLIC		X	
DENMARK			X
FINLAND			X
GERMANY			X
GREECE			X
HUNGARY			X
ICELAND			X
IRELAND			X
ISRAEL			X
ITALY			X
KOREA		X	
MEXICO			X
NETHERLANDS	X		
NEW ZEALAND			X
NORWAY			X
PORTUGAL			X
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X
SLOVENIA			X
SOUTH AFRICA		X	
SPAIN			X
SWEDEN			X
TURKEY	X		
UNITED KINGDOM			X
UNITED STATES			X

4.2.g Are the following accounts integrated into the accounting system to facilitate the preparation of financial statements?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Assets	25	64.1 %	72
A2 : Liabilities	28	71.7 %	72
A3 : Government equity	24	61.5 %	68
A4 : Revenues	39	100	100
A5 : Expenses	39	100	100

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
AUSTRALIA	X	X	X	X	X
AUSTRIA	X	X	X	X	X
BELGIUM				X	X
CANADA	X	X	X	X	X
CHILE	X	X	X	X	X
CZECH REPUBLIC	X	X	X	X	X
DENMARK	X	X		X	X
FINLAND	X	X	X	X	X
FRANCE				X	X
GERMANY				X	X
GREECE				X	X
HUNGARY	X	X	X	X	X
ICELAND	X	X	X	X	X
IRELAND			X	X	X
ISRAEL		X	X	X	X
ITALY	X	X	X	X	X
KOREA	X	X		X	X
MEXICO				X	X
NEW ZEALAND	X	X	X	X	X
NORWAY	X	X	X	X	X
PORTUGAL	X	X	X	X	X
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X	X	X	X	X
SLOVENIA	X	X	X	X	X
SOUTH AFRICA				X	X
SPAIN	X	X	X	X	X
SWEDEN	X	X	X	X	X
TURKEY				X	X
UNITED KINGDOM	X	X	X	X	X
UNITED STATES	X	X	X	X	X

4.2.h How are the technical accounting standards for financial statements determined?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority determines standards following recommendations by formal advisory board	9	23.0 %	28
A2 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority appoints an independent accounting standards board to determine the accounting standards to be used.	1	2.5 %	0
A3 : The Ministry of Finance/Central Budget Authority determines them internally	17	43.5 %	48
A4 : Private Sector <u>Accounting</u> Standards Body determines them (<u>Government organisation</u> follow accounting standards applicable to all sectors of economy)	0	0	0
A5 : Independently appointed public sector accounting standards body determines them	2	5.1 %	0
A6 : A single accounting standards body covering both public and private sectors sets them.	1	2.5 %	4
A7 : Other, please specify	11	28.2 %	24

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7
AUSTRALIA						X	
AUSTRIA			X				
BELGIUM			X				
CANADA	X						
CHILE							X
CZECH REPUBLIC			X				
FINLAND	X						
FRANCE							X
GERMANY			X				
GREECE			X				
HUNGARY	X						
ICELAND	X						
IRELAND							X
ISRAEL							X
ITALY			X				
JAPAN							X
KOREA			X				
MEXICO			X				
NETHERLANDS			X				
NORWAY			X				
PORTUGAL							X
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X				
SLOVENIA	X						
SOUTH AFRICA			X				X
SPAIN	X						
SWEDEN			X				
TURKEY	X						
UNITED KINGDOM	X						X
UNITED STATES							X

4.2.i Is there a statement of the accounting basis (e.g., cash or accruals) and the accounting policies adopted in the government accounts?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : A full statement is provided indicating any changes in practices as well as current policy	22	62.8 %	54.5 %
A2 : A partial statement is provided	7	20	27.2 %
A3 : No statement is provided	6	17.1 %	18.1 %

	A1	A2	A3
AUSTRALIA	X		
AUSTRIA			X
BELGIUM			X
CANADA	X		
CHILE	X		
FINLAND	X		
FRANCE		X	
GERMANY	X		
GREECE			X
ICELAND	X		
IRELAND	X		
ISRAEL		X	
ITALY			X
JAPAN		X	
KOREA		X	
MEXICO		X	
NETHERLANDS	X		
NEW ZEALAND	X		
NORWAY		X	
PORTUGAL	X		
SLOVENIA			X
SOUTH AFRICA	X		
SPAIN		X	
SWEDEN	X		
UNITED KINGDOM	X		
UNITED STATES	X		

4.2.j What basis of accounting are the consolidated, whole of government annual financial statements on?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : There is no consolidated, whole of government annual financial statement	4	9.7 %	11.1 %
A2 : Full cash basis	14	34.1 %	37.0 %
A3 : Cash basis, except that certain transactions are treated on accrual basis	6	14.6 %	7.4 %
A4 : Full accrual basis only	3	7.3 %	7.4 %
A5 : Full Accrual basis, except:	4	9.7 %	14.8 %
A6 : Capital expenditures are treated as ordinary expenditure (i.e. no capitalisation or depreciation of assets)	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A7 : Tax receipts	2	4.8 %	7.4 %
A8 : Land and natural resources	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A9 : Other please specify	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A10 : Both Full Cash Basis and Full Accrual Basis	4	9.7 %	3.7 %
A11 : Other, please specify	6	14.6 %	18.5 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11
AUSTRALIA				X							
AUSTRIA		X									
BELGIUM		X									
CANADA				X							
CHILE	X									X	
CZECH REPUBLIC		X									
DENMARK	X										
FINLAND					X						
FRANCE	X										X
GERMANY		X									
GREECE		X									
HUNGARY		X									
ICELAND					X	X					
IRELAND			X								
ISRAEL			X								
ITALY	X										
JAPAN	X										X
KOREA	X										
MEXICO			X								
NETHERLANDS		X									
NEW ZEALAND	X									X	
NORWAY		X									
PORTUGAL	X										X
SLOVAK REPUBLIC		X									
SLOVENIA		X									
SOUTH AFRICA	X										
SPAIN	X										X
SWEDEN					X		X				
TURKEY		X									
UNITED KINGDOM	X										X
UNITED STATES					X		X	X	X		

4.2.k If financial statements are on a cash basis with some exceptions treated on accrual basis, then what transactions are treated on an accrual basis?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Financial Statements follow the accounting basis used in the budget	4	22.2 %	22.2 %
A2 : Interest on government debt is treated on an accrual basis	5	27.7 %	33.3 %
A3 : Civil Service Pension Plans are treated on an accrual basis	0	0	0
A4 : Wages and Salaries are treated on an accrual basis	2	11.1 %	0
A5 : Expenditure on fixed assets is subject to depreciation	2	11.1 %	22.2 %
A6 : Other, please specify	9	50	44.4 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6
DENMARK	X					
GREECE		X				
IRELAND		X				X
ISRAEL		X		X		X
ITALY						X
MEXICO						X
NEW ZEALAND						X
PORTUGAL		X			X	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X					
SLOVENIA						X
SOUTH AFRICA						X
UNITED KINGDOM					X	

4.2.1 Do Government organisations produce their own annual financial statements?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : All or most government organisations	33	84.6 %	88
A2 : They are produced in selected government organisations	1	2.5 %	4
A3 : They are not produced	5	12.8 %	8

	A1	A2	A3
AUSTRALIA	X		
AUSTRIA			X
BELGIUM	X		
CANADA	X		
CHILE	X		
CZECH REPUBLIC	X		
DENMARK	X		
FINLAND	X		
GERMANY	X		
GREECE	X		
HUNGARY	X		
ICELAND	X		
IRELAND	X		
ISRAEL			X
ITALY	X		
KOREA			X
MEXICO	X		
NETHERLANDS	X		
NEW ZEALAND	X		
NORWAY	X		
PORTUGAL	X		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X		
SLOVENIA	X		
SOUTH AFRICA	X		
SPAIN	X		
SWEDEN	X		
TURKEY		X	
UNITED KINGDOM	X		
UNITED STATES	X		

4.2.m If applicable, on what basis of accounting are government organisation annual financial statements?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Full cash basis	11	26.8 %	29.6 %
A2 : Cash basis, except that certain transactions are treated on accrual basis	7	17.0 %	11.1 %
A3 : Full accrual basis only	5	12.1 %	14.8 %
A4 : Full Accrual basis, except	3	7.3 %	11.1 %
A5 : Capital expenditures are treated as ordinary expenditure (i.e. no capitalisation or depreciation of assets)	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A6 : Tax receipts	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A7 : Land and natural resources	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A8 : Other please specify	1	2.4 %	3.7 %
A9 : Both Full Cash Basis and Full <u>Accrual Basis</u>	7	17.0 %	11.1 %
A10 : Other, please specify	4	9.7 %	11.1 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10
AUSTRALIA			X							
AUSTRIA										
BELGIUM	X									
CANADA			X							
CHILE									X	
CZECH REPUBLIC	X									
DENMARK		X								
FINLAND				X						
FRANCE	X									
GERMANY	X									
GREECE										
HUNGARY		X								
ICELAND				X	X					
IRELAND	X									
ISRAEL										
ITALY									X	
JAPAN	X									X
KOREA										
MEXICO		X								
NETHERLANDS			X							
NEW ZEALAND									X	
NORWAY	X									
PORTUGAL									X	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X									
SLOVENIA		X								
SOUTH AFRICA		X								
SPAIN	X									X
SWEDEN			X							
TURKEY	X									
UNITED KINGDOM	X									X
UNITED STATES				X		X	X	X		

4.2.n If government organisation annual financial statements are on a cash basis, with some exceptions treated on accrual basis, then what transactions are treated on an accrual basis?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Interest on government debt is treated on an accrual basis	3	20	14.2 %
A2 : Civil Service Pension Plans are treated on an accrual basis	0	0	0
A3 : Wages and salaries are treated on an accrual basis	1	6.6 %	0
A4 : Expenditure on fixed assets is subject to depreciation	1	6.6 %	14.2 %
A5 : Other, please specify	11	73.3 %	85.7 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
DENMARK					X
HUNGARY					X
ITALY					X
JAPAN					X
MEXICO					X
NEW ZEALAND					X
PORTUGAL	X			X	
SLOVENIA					X
SOUTH AFRICA					X

4.2.o If full accrual basis is used for any of the previous reports, are all assets (reproducible property, plant and equipment) capitalised and depreciated?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Yes	10	47.6 %	58.3 %
A2 : No	11	52.3 %	41.6 %

	A1	A2
AUSTRALIA	X	
CANADA		X
CHILE		X
FINLAND		X
GREECE	X	
JAPAN	X	
MEXICO		X
NEW ZEALAND	X	
PORTUGAL	X	
SLOVENIA		X
SOUTH AFRICA		X
SPAIN		X
SWEDEN	X	
UNITED KINGDOM	X	
UNITED STATES		X

4.2.p If no, which assets are not capitalised and depreciated?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Military Assets	11	84.6 %	77.7 %
A2 : Historical Buildings	9	69.2 %	55.5 %
A3 : Highways	7	53.8 %	44.4 %
A4 : Other, please specify	7	53.8 %	55.5 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4
CANADA				X
CHILE	X	X	X	X
FINLAND	X			
HUNGARY	X	X	X	X
IRELAND	X			
JAPAN				X
KOREA	X	X	X	
MEXICO	X	X	X	X
SLOVENIA	X	X		X
SOUTH AFRICA	X	X	X	
SPAIN	X	X	X	
UNITED STATES	X	X		X

4.2.q Where there are readily identified market values for capital assets, what values are used?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Current Market Value	8	28.5 %	31.5 %
A2 : Replacement Value	2	7.1 %	5.2 %
A3 : Historical Cost	13	46.4 %	47.3 %
A4 : Other, please specify	7	25	26.3 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4
AUSTRALIA				X
CANADA			X	
CHILE			X	
CZECH REPUBLIC			X	
FINLAND	X			X
GREECE				X
HUNGARY			X	
IRELAND	X			
ITALY			X	
JAPAN	X			
KOREA				X
MEXICO	X			
NEW ZEALAND	X			
NORWAY			X	X
PORTUGAL	X			
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X	
SLOVENIA	X			
SOUTH AFRICA			X	
SPAIN			X	
SWEDEN			X	
UNITED KINGDOM		X		
UNITED STATES			X	

4.2.r Where the assets are “specialised” (i.e. there is no market evidence of current value), what values are used?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Replacement Value	6	23.0 %	17.6 %
A2 : Historical Cost	16	61.5 %	58.8 %
A3 : Other, please specify	4	15.3 %	23.5 %

	A1	A2	A3
AUSTRALIA			X
CANADA		X	
CHILE		X	
CZECH REPUBLIC		X	
FINLAND		X	
GREECE			X
HUNGARY		X	
IRELAND			X
ITALY			X
JAPAN		X	
MEXICO		X	
NEW ZEALAND	X		
NORWAY		X	
PORTUGAL	X		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC		X	
SLOVENIA	X		
SOUTH AFRICA		X	
SWEDEN		X	
UNITED KINGDOM	X		
UNITED STATES		X	

4.2.s Are audited final accounts published and available publicly?

	Total	Percent all countries	Percent OECD
A1 : Yes, within one month of the end of the fiscal year	0	0	0
A2 : Yes, within one to three months of the end of the fiscal year	4	11.1 %	13.0 %
A3 : Yes, within three to six months of the end of the fiscal year	13	36.1 %	43.4 %
A4 : Yes, generally more than six months of the end of the fiscal year	17	47.2 %	39.1 %
A5 : No	2	5.5 %	4.3 %

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
BELGIUM				X	
CANADA			X		
CHILE		X			
CZECH REPUBLIC			X		
DENMARK					X
FINLAND			X		
FRANCE			X		
GREECE			X		
HUNGARY				X	
ICELAND				X	
ISRAEL			X		
ITALY			X		
JAPAN				X	
KOREA				X	
MEXICO		X			
NETHERLANDS			X		
NEW ZEALAND		X			
NORWAY			X		
PORTUGAL				X	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X		
SLOVENIA				X	
SOUTH AFRICA			X		
SPAIN				X	
SWEDEN		X			
TURKEY				X	
UNITED KINGDOM				X	
UNITED STATES			X		