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

09-Feb-2010

English - Or. English

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

### **Working Party of Senior Budget Officials**

#### **10th ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM**

#### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**International Energy Agency, Paris  
8-9 March 2010**

*The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Ian Mackintosh, Chairman, Accounting Standards Board, United Kingdom.*

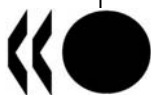
*The International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) and the OECD are jointly hosting a one-day seminar on Reporting on Long-Term Fiscal Sustainability at OECD Headquarters immediately following the Accruals Symposium, on 10 March. Please see separate agenda. All Delegates are invited to participate in the seminar.*

*The meeting will take place at the International Energy Agency (Agence Internationale de l'Energie), which is located 9 rue de la Fédération, in the 15th arrondissement (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is "Bir Hakeim".*

For further information, please contact Jon BLONDAL at OECD Headquarters  
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**10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM**  
**OECD Conference Centre, Paris, 8-9 March 2010**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Monday, 8 March 2010**

- 9:15-9:30**      **Opening by Chairman and OECD Secretariat  
Delegates' Introductions**
- 9:30-10:00**    **Report by International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB)**  
  
This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). It will provide a progress report on the Board's on-going work on promulgating standards as well as discussing the Board's overall strategy and work programme.  
  
Following a lead presentation by IPSASB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.
- 10:00-10:30**   **Report by International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)**  
  
This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and their possible implications for the public sector.  
  
Following a lead presentation by IASB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.
- 10:30-11:00**   **Report by United States Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB)**  
  
This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to United States Federal Accounting Standards. It will provide a progress report on the Board's on-going work on promulgating standards as well as discussing the Board's overall strategy and work programme.  
  
Following a lead presentation by FASAB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.
- 11:00-11:30*    *Coffee Break*
- 11:30-12:00**   **Report by Statistical Office of the European Commission (EUROSTAT)**  
  
This session is designed to update Delegates on developments with regard to the European System of Accounts (ESA). It will provide a progress report on their on-going and future work on promulgating regulations on national accounting. It will also discuss divergences between national accounting and financial accounting and their implications.

Following a lead presentation by EUROSTAT, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

**12:00-13:00 Reports on Specific Developments in Individual Countries**

This session is designed for Delegates to make presentations on specific accrual developments in their respective countries.

Delegates are invited to submit proposed interventions ahead of the meeting to the Secretariat. Based on the proposals received, the Chairman will then call on selected countries to make brief interventions on areas that may be of interest to others.

This allows participants to exchange information on recent reforms which are taking place and provides a useful opportunity for Delegates to keep up to date with developments.

The floor will be opened to comments and questions following each selected intervention.

*13:00-14:30 Lunch Break*

**14:30-16:30 Different Views on the Use of Accrual Budgeting: Perspectives from the Netherlands, Switzerland and New Zealand**

Whether to adopt accrual budgeting has been discussed extensively in recent years. The objective of this session is to move beyond a general discussion and to focus on the specific advantages and disadvantages of accrual budgeting based on practical experiences and applied research.

Two countries recently reached very different decisions in regards to adopting accrual budgeting. Switzerland embraced full accrual budgeting whereas the Netherlands rejected full accrual budgeting. Both countries did so after extensive research and dialogue with managers, ministers, members of parliament and other users of budget information. Lead presentations will be given by both countries to launch the discussion.

New Zealand will also highlight the continued role and importance of cash in their accrual appropriation framework.

Following these lead presentations, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

*16:30-17:00 Coffee Break*

**17:00-18:00 Reporting on Long-Term Fiscal Sustainability**

The International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board has an on-going project dedicated to *Reporting on Long-Term Fiscal Sustainability*. The OECD has worked closely with IPSASB on this project as have a number of OECD countries and other international organizations. This session will provide an overview of the project and key issues being considered, including definitions; reporting entity for long-term fiscal sustainability reporting; time horizons; regularity of reporting; assumptions and sensitivity of assumptions; approach to discretionary programs; and scope in terms of governmental programs.

Following a lead presentation by IPSASB, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

Please note that the IPSASB and the OECD are jointly hosting a one-day seminar on these issues at OECD Headquarters following this meeting (Wednesday, 10 February). All Delegates are invited to participate in the seminar.

18:00-20:00 *Cocktail*

The OECD Secretariat invites all participants to a cocktail in the *Château de la Muette*.

### **Tuesday, 9 March 2010**

**9:30-11:00 Performance Reporting in the Public Sector**

Performance reporting in the public sector is taking on ever greater importance as governments continue to shift their focus from inputs to performance and results. This session will focus on the form and content of such performance reports and how they relate to the financial reports of government. The session will discuss key measurement issues for outcomes and outputs as well as the costing of specific outcomes and outputs. It will also discuss the relationship between whole-of-government performance reporting and agency-specific performance reporting and the consistency of such reports more broadly.

Canada has been very active in this area. They produce an annual whole-of-government report - *Canada's Performance* – which serves as a companion piece to agency-specific *Departmental Performance Reports*. It describes the Federal government's contribution to Canada's performance as a nation and details how departments and agencies have contributed to the Government's goals.

Following a lead presentation by Canada, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

11:00-11:30 *Coffee Break*

**11:30-13:00 Sovereign Balance Sheets and Accounting for the Fiscal Response to the Global Financial Crisis**

At last year's meeting, a session was devoted to *Accounting for the Fiscal Response to the Global Financial Crisis*, recognizing that how these transactions are recorded is key to ensuring transparency and accountability. The discussion revealed that these transactions were often reported separately as there was no single reporting entity encompassing the various institutions involved.

In response, the International Monetary Fund has developed the concept of *Sovereign Balance Sheets*. This concept is based on a view that the government should take a comprehensive view of all the resources available to it, and manage them strategically, taking

into account their combined implications. This would include budgetary central government, other central government agencies including sovereign wealth funds and pension funds, subnational governments, the central bank, and state enterprises (both financial and non-financial). It should be emphasized that this is an analytical tool and is not designed to compromise the institutional independence of any component of the sovereign balance sheet.

Following a lead presentation by the IMF, the floor will be opened to general discussion among all Delegates.

At last year's meeting, a number of countries indicated that the accounting treatment for certain transactions had not been finalized at that time as their government's annual financial statements were not ready. This session is also an opportunity for Delegates to provide updates in this respect.

*13:00-14:30 Lunch Break*

**14:30-16:00 Roundtable on the Treatment of Specific Emerging Accounting Issues**

This session is designed for Delegates to identify specific emerging accounting issues of concern in their respective countries and for other countries to comment on the issue and share their experiences and practices.

Delegates are invited to notify the Secretariat of issues they wish to raise ahead of the meeting. The Chairman may shorten the length of the session in view of the submissions received.

**16:00 Closing by Chairman and OECD Secretariat**

## GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

### ***Meeting Location***

The meeting will take place at the **International Energy Agency** (*Agence Internationale de l'Énergie*), which is located **9 rue de la Fédération**, in the 15<sup>th</sup> *arrondissement* (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is "**Bir Hakeim**".

### ***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 the IEA building 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.



**10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OECD PUBLIC SECTOR ACCRUALS SYMPOSIUM**  
*IEA, 9 rue de la Fédération, 75015 Paris, 8-9 March 2010*

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

FACSIMILE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] YES, I will also attend the Joint IPSASB-OECD Seminar on 10 March 2010

Please return the completed form to Mrs. H el ene LECONTE-LUCAS  
OECD - GOV/BUD

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