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**PUBLIC MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**PUBLIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**18th Session of the Committee, Château de la Muette, Paris  
28-29 October 1998**

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## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

*28-29 October, 1998*

1. **Adoption of the Agenda** PUMA/A(98)2
2. **Approval of the Summary Record of the Previous Meeting** PUMA/M(98)1
3. **Election of a fourth Vice-Chair**
4. **Report by the Head of Service**
5. **Revised Programme of Work 1999-2000** PUMA(98)12
  - a) **Public Governance in the OECD**
  - b) **Reaching out to Policy-makers**
  - c) **Beyond OECD**
  - d) **Flagship Outputs**
  - e) **Programme Goals and Structure**
  - f) **Towards a Re-Invented Programme: Next Steps**
  - g) **Resource Allocation**
6. **Country Presentation**
7. **Statement by the Deputy Secretary General**
8. **Review of Selected Projects** PUMA(98)13
  - a) **Public Management Country Studies**
  - b) **Performance contracting**
  - c) **Regulatory Reform Country reviews**
  - d) **Symposium on Strategies for Government Review and Reform**
  - e) **Emerging Market Economy Forum Workshop**
  - f) **Year 2000 Problem**
9. **Communications**
10. **Promising Practices**
11. **Other Business**

## **NOTES ON THE AGENDA**

This meeting takes place at a time of major challenge to the Committee's Programme of Work because of the budgetary context. In response the Secretariat, working with the Officers has launched a process to "re-invent" the Programme. The meeting agenda has been refocused in consequence.

The Committee will be invited to agree on the new Programme approach and on the content, scope and methods of work for major Committee activities in the 1999-2000 period.

The regular opportunities for learning on new country initiatives and innovations will be retained.

### ***Item 3 - Election of a fourth Vice-Chair***

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Given the increase in Membership and in order to promote wider involvement and ensure continuity, it is proposed to activate the Committee decision to elect, if appropriate a 4th Vice-Chair. A stronger Bureau is also needed to lead the consultation and change over the next months.

### ***Item 4 - Report by the Head of Service***

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The Head of Service will report on important future issues and programme developments. There will be an opportunity for Committee discussion on these or any other items that Committee members may wish to raise.

### ***Item 5 - Revised Programme of Work 1999-2000***

***PUMA(98)12***

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The Secretariat will explain the proposed approach to the Programme reinvention, and the Committee will be invited to make any general comments.

The Committee will then discuss the Programme following the sections of the document, and responding to specific issues raised below.

- a) **Public Governance in the OECD.** The document sets out a line of argument linking reform of governance with economic development. Implicitly it assumes that governance is the public sector decision system. Does the Committee agree with the implicit definition, are the key arguments.
- b) **Reaching out to Policy-makers.** The document suggests that the Committee should make greater effort to "market" its work in order to support reform in Member countries. We will consider various ways by which the Committee can help to get political attention to focus on relevant issues of public management. This will include a possible ministerial meeting or Symposium and when that might usefully take place.
- c) **Beyond OECD.** The Committee has tended to give a lower priority to Outreach. However, it is seen as one of the most important orientations for the Organisation's future. The proposal is to expand the work in this area but, as far as possible, to use cost recovery and work through

“multipliers” such as the World Bank. Special approaches may be needed for Russia and NIS. Does the Committee agree that the Secretariat and the Bureau, or a sub-group, explore new approaches to outreach, and report back to the Committee early in 1999?

- d) **Flagship Outputs.** Four such outputs are identified in the Programme document. Does the Committee agree with this selection, and does the Committee have views on the content or approach:
- **Assessment of public budgeting and management systems**
  - **Review of Implementation of the Council Recommendation on public service ethics**
  - **Survey of best practices in improving regulatory quality**
  - **Policy guidelines on public participation in public policy**
- e) **Programme Goals and Structure.** The document suggests four main function of the Programme: carrying out activities, maintaining professional constituencies, contributing to OECD’s wider goals; supporting management change in OECD. Does the Committee agree with these four functions as described?
- f) **Towards a Re-Invented Programme:- Next steps.** A “reinvention” process has been launched, and should continue into 1999 when the Mandate will be renewed. It is proposed to work with the Officers and to consult with other Directorates of the OECD, other International Institutions, as well as in countries. In addition it is proposed to consult with independent experts and possibly to set up an independently financed “High-Level Group”. Does the Committee have views on the timing, process or direction of re-invention?
- g) **Resource Allocation.** Resources are allocated across the activities. Does the Committee think that the proportions are a correct reflection of priorities?

### ***Item 7 - Statement by the Deputy Secretary-General***

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Ms Johanna Shelton, Deputy Secretary-General, will brief the Committee on the Secretary-General’s “Challenges and Strategic Objectives” for the Organisation, recently circulated as C(98)133, her views on the place of PUMA within the OECD’s portfolio of activities and the current budget situation.

### ***Item 8 - Review of Selected Projects***

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***PUMA(98)13***

- a) **Country reviews on Budgeting and Management.** The Committee will review the suggested implementation of Country Reviews described in Annex A [PUMA(98)13]. In particular the Committee is invited to advise on the nature of a questionnaire to be used.

Committee Action: Provide feedback on the proposals in this paper for the continued development of the country study outputs.

- b) **Performance Contracting.** The Committee is invited to comment on the main issues and conclusions emerging from this work [ see Annex B] as an input to the process of finalising work on this topic.

Committee Action: Note the progress of work on performance contracting.

- b) **Regulatory Reform Country Reviews.** The Committee will be asked to take note of the conclusions of the PUMA Chapters for the Netherlands and the US reviews [see Annex C] before they are incorporated in the full reports for each country. An Oral report will also present progress achieved on reviews on Japan and Mexico (considered by the PUMA Regulatory Management and Reform Group, 22-23 October). The Committee will be invited to comment on progress of the activity.
- c) **Symposium on Strategies for Government Review and Reform.** The symposium, which was scheduled for February 1999, had to be postponed to avoid competition with other international events in the field of public management. It is now due to take place in September 1999. The Committee is invited to note the objectives and intended participation and provide any feedback [see Annex D].
- d) **Emerging Market Economy Forum Workshop.** This Workshop will take place on 11-12 December 1998. An oral report on this event, will be presented. The meeting, which is resourced by OECD/CCNM, will play an important role in PUMA's future involvement in outreach activities, particularly given the context of the world financial crisis.
- e) **Year 2000 Problem.** An oral report will be presented on what has been achieved with the Report on "The Year 2000 problem: Impacts and Actions" drawn up in response to the Ministerial Mandate of April 1998.

### ***Item 9 - Communications***

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The Committee's Communications Group will report on new initiatives to provide better access to PUMA work. There will be a Room Document for reference.

### ***Item 10 - Promising Practices***

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The Committee Officers will invite selected delegates in a one-hour session to present "promising practices" based on their country factsheets with some time for questions after each.