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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques  
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TRADE DIRECTORATE  
TRADE COMMITTEE

TD/ECG/A(2006)4  
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## Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees

### DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 9TH INFORMAL CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE WORKING PARTY ON EXPORT CREDITS AND CREDIT GUARANTEES AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Salle des Nations, Tour Europe, La Défense, Paris  
29 (morning) May 2006

*PUROPOSE OF PAPER AND ACTION REQUIRED: This is the Draft Agenda of the 9th Informal Consultation between the Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees (ECG) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), to be held on 29 (morning) May 2006 in Salle des Nations, Tour Europe, La Défense, Paris. The Meeting will be chaired by Mr. Brendan BERNE (Australia).*

*LINK TO PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET: Output Results 6R03010105.*

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

English - Or. English

*Please note that in a spirit of paper economy and for environmental purposes, copies of the documents listed on the Agenda will not be available in the meeting room. Delegates are invited to bring with them the copies they receive through OLIS or paper mail or to obtain further copies from their respective national delegations.*

**DRAFT AGENDA FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> INFORMAL CONSULTATION BETWEEN  
THE WORKING PARTY ON EXPORT CREDITS AND CREDIT GUARANTEES  
AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS**

**to be held on 29 (morning) May 2006, starting 10.00 a.m.**

**Salle des Nations, Tour Europe, La Défense, Paris**

***Chairman : Mr. Brendan BERNE (Australia)***

- I. Adoption of the Agenda** **TD/ECG/A(2006)3**
- II. Export Credits and the Environment: Review of the OECD Recommendation on Common Approaches on Environment and Officially Supported Export Credits** **TD/ECG(2005)3**  
**Room Documents Nos. 1, 2 & 3**
- (a) Transparency and Disclosure of Information*
- (b) Consultation with and Participation by Affected Communities*
- (c) Ex-Post Monitoring and Compliance Mechanisms*
- (d) International Best Practice*
- (i) International Obligations of National Governments*
- (ii) Standards*
- (e) Re-insurance and Co-insurance Situations*
- (f) Any Other Elements of the Recommendation*
- III. Other Business**
- VI. Chairman's Concluding Remarks**

## SECRETARIAT NOTES

### I. Adoption of the Agenda

The purpose of this Consultation is to enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and ECG Members to exchange views on elements of the OECD Recommendation on Common Approaches on Environment and Officially Supported Export Credits [TD/ECG(2005)3] (the “Recommendation”) adopted by the OECD Council in December 2003, with a view to facilitating the ECG’s review of the Recommendation. The CSOs who have requested, and been invited, to attend this Consultation are attached. The issues for discussion are those nominated by the CSOs. *For adoption.*

### II. Environment and Officially Supported Export Credits: Review of the OECD Recommendation on Common Approaches on Environment and Officially Supported Export Credits

CSOs were invited to submit any initial comments in writing on the review of the Recommendation towards the end of 2005 and, subsequently, were invited to submit any suggestions for the Draft Agenda of this Consultation meeting. The following written submissions have been received and the issues identified therein have been reflected in this Draft Agenda as follows:

- European Banking Federation: Letter dated 22 December 2005: Room Document No. 1.
- ECA Watch: Letter dated 6 January 2006: Room Document No. 2.
- ECA Watch: Email dated 12 May 2006: Room Document No. 3.

#### (a) *Transparency and Disclosure of Information*

ECA Watch has proposed that transparency provisions of any revised Recommendation should be improved to include, *inter alia*, the pro-active dissemination of project environmental, social, labour, human rights and developmental impacts, as well as the disclosure of investment contracts and revenues associated with ECA-supported projects. *For discussion.*

#### (b) *Consultation with and Participation by Affected Communities*

ECA Watch has proposed that improved decision-making processes are required involving affected communities to ensure that all stakeholders are equally involved in decision-making with regard to project design, implementation and management and in the distribution of project benefits. Human rights criteria should also be required as part of standard due diligence procedures. *For discussion.*

#### (c) *Ex-Post Monitoring and Compliance Mechanisms*

ECA Watch has proposed that improved due diligence is needed through better monitoring and compliance mechanisms to ensure that standards are met during project implementation. *For discussion.*

**(d) International Best Practice**

**(i) International Obligations of National Governments**

ECA Watch has proposed that, to meet the stated objectives of the current Recommendation, procedures need to be improved to help reduce the non-level playing field among Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) and to promote coherence with other international obligations of national governments on environmental and social protection. *For discussion.*

**(ii) Standards**

ECA Watch has proposed that the Recommendation should be brought into line with current and evolving best practices, with regard to both base-line generic standards and sector-specific standards. The European Banking Federation (EBF) has commented that its members support the flexibility under the current rules to use a range of suitable environmental standards. The IFIs (who have also been invited to the Consultation) may also wish to contribute to this Agenda Item by briefly commenting on developments in their institutions. *For discussion.*

**(e) Re-insurance and Co-insurance Situations**

The EBF has urged ECAs to co-ordinate environmental assessments, particularly with regard to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), for example through the “lead” ECA approach in the case of shared projects, to avoid duplication and unnecessary administrative burdens. *For discussion.*

**(f) Any Other Elements of the Recommendation**

Stakeholders may wish to raise other issues of concern regarding other elements of the Recommendation. *For discussion.*

Any issues raised concerning the above elements of the Recommendation will be reported to the 107<sup>th</sup> ECG Meeting, which is to take place on 29 (afternoon) and 30 May 2006, *i.e.* immediately following this Consultation.

**III. Other Business**

**VI. Chairman’s Concluding Remarks**

At the end of the meeting, the Chairman will summarise the discussions. *For information.*

## **ANNEX: LIST OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS**

- Amnesty International
- Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC)
- Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC)
- ECA Watch and related Non-Governmental Organisations:
  - Amis de la Terre, Montreuil, FR
  - Both Ends, Amsterdam, NL
  - Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale, Rome, IT
  - Centre for International Environmental Law, Washington, US
  - ECA Watch, Paris, FR
  - Environmental Defense, Washington, US
  - FERN/ECA Watch Europe, Brussels, BE
  - FIVAS, Oslo, NO
  - Friends of the Earth Japan, Tokyo, JP
  - Halifax Initiative, Ottawa, CA
  - Pacific Environment, Washington, US
  - Projecto Eca-Iberia / Euronatura, Lisbon, PT
  - Projecto Gato, Ghent, BE
  - Publish What You Pay Coalition, UK
  - Sakhalin Environment Watch, RU
  - The Corner House, Dorset, UK
  - urgewald, Berlin, DE
- European Banking Federation (EBF)
- Equator Principle Financial Institutions (EPFIs)