

GOV/SBO/A(2024)11

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28 October 2024

PUBLIC GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE COMMITTEE OF SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS

19th Annual Meeting of OECD Central, Eastern, and South Eastern European Senior Budget Officials (CESEE SBO)

Draft Agenda

3-4 December 2024 9h30 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Chair: Mr Allard Postma, Head of Budget Policy, Ministry of Finance, the Netherlands

The meeting is kindly hosted by the Ministry of Finance of Slovenia.

The OECD gratefully acknowledges the support of the Netherlands, and the Public Expenditure Management Peer Assisted Learning (PEMPAL) network for this meeting.

JT03552991

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19th Annual Meeting of Central, Eastern and South Eastern European Senior Budget Officials (CESEE SBO)

Hosted by the Ministry of Finance, Slovenia

Brdo, Slovenia

Tuesday, 3 December 2024

09:00 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 10:10 Opening

- Opening remarks by Allard Postma, Chair
- Welcome address by Klemen Boštjančič, Minister of Finance, Slovenia
- Welcome remarks by OECD Secretariat
- Family photo

10:10 - 12:30 Roundtable on Recent Budget Developments in the Region

This Session provides Delegates with a succinct overview of recent developments in budgeting and public expenditure in the region, as well as setting the scene for discussions in the meeting.

The Chair will ask each country to give a brief (4-5 minutes) update on recent developments and public financial management reform initiative in their country. Given constraints on time, Delegates may wish to provide written statements to supplement their presentations.

A coffee break will be called during this session

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 14:30 Presentation by Slovenia

This session will provide an overview of the budgeting and public financial management system of Slovenia.

Following a presentation by the **Slovenian Ministry of Finance**, the floor will be opened for comments and questions among all Delegates.

14:30 - 15:00 Fiscal Sustainability, Fiscal Risks and Fiscal Rules - Plenary

This session will discuss the multi-faceted issues related to fiscal sustainability in the broadest sense – both conceptually and how they may apply differently in different contexts. It will highlight fiscal risks in the current economic environment and outlook, as well as exploring the appropriate public policy and budgetary responses. It will then consider the implications for re-thinking fiscal rules at a time when budget discipline is most required.

Following a lead presentation by the **OECD Secretariat**, Delegates will break into three smaller groups to discuss the issues raised.

15:00 - 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 - 17:00 Fiscal Sustainability, Fiscal Risks and Fiscal Rules - Discussion Groups

A set of questions will be prepared to guide the discussion.

The moderators of each of the Groups will then report back and summarize the main points raised in the discussion and any conclusions reached.

17:30 Cultural Event

19:30 Gala Dinner

Wednesday, 4 December 2024

09:30 - 10:45 Empowering Public Understanding

The actions needed to ensure fiscal sustainability will often involve difficult choices and require strong will. Acting sooner rather than later will likely mean less costly outcomes. This session will focus on ways and means to raise awareness of the seriousness of the fiscal situation and the need to take action among all stakeholders, including the public, the media and elected officials. This may include fiscal advocacy, activities to promote fiscal literacy, enhancing citizen dialogue and the effective use of innovative communications approaches.

Following presentations from the **OECD Secretariat and Slovenia**, the floor will be opened for comments and questions amongst Delegates.

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 - 12:45 Performance Budgeting

Performance budgeting is fundamental to *Spending Better*. It aims to demonstrate the results achieved with spending and assist policymakers in making more informed budgetary decisions. Implementing performance budgeting is however challenging. This session will focus on practical issues and OECD best practices for implementing performance budgeting.

Following a lead presentation **by PEMPAL**, the floor will be opened for comments and questions amongst Delegates.

12:45 - 13:00 Report by the OECD Secretariat and Future Work Programme

This Session updates Delegates on the OECD Secretariat's current and future work programme. It is also an opportunity for participants to identify emerging priority areas for future work, the nature of their interest in the subject and their willingness to participate in particular studies.

13:00 Closing

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch