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PUBLIC GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE COMMITTEE OF SENIOR BUDGET OFFICIALS

17th Annual Meeting of OECD Central, Eastern, and South Eastern European Senior Budget Officials (CESEE SBO)

Draft Agenda

27-28 October 2022 Bucharest, Romania

The meeting is kindly hosted by the Ministry of Public Finance of Romania and is chaired by **Mr. Allard Postma**, Head of Budget Policy, Ministry of Finance, the Netherlands.

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

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Thursday, 27 October 2022

09:00 - 09:30 Registration and Collection of Badges

09:30 – 10:15 **Opening**

- Opening remarks by Chair
- Welcome Address by His Excellency Mr. Adrian Câciu, Minister of Finance, Romania
- Family photo
- Welcome remarks by OECD Secretariat
- Delegate introductions

10:15 – 11:45 Roundtable on Recent Budgeting and Public Expenditure Developments

This Session is designed to provide Delegates with a succinct overview of recent budgeting and public expenditure developments in the region, including responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to set the scene for discussions in the meeting.

The Chair will ask one Delegate from each country to give a brief (3–5 minutes) update (1-2 PowerPoint slides - optional). Given constraints on time within this roundtable discussion, Delegates may wish to provide short, written statements to supplement their presentations.

A coffee break will be called during the session.

11:45 – 12:30 **Budgeting in Romania**

This session will consider the OECD's Budget Review of Romania. It offers a general overview of the budgeting process in Romania, highlighting recent and ongoing reforms.

Following an introductory presentation by the OECD Secretariat and the Ministry of Public Finance of Romania, the floor will be opened for general discussion.

12:30 - 14:00 Luncheon

14:00 – 17:00 OECD Spending Better Framework

The OECD Spending Better Framework offers a comprehensive and integrated analysis of the key elements and features of successful budget institutions, "connecting the dots" of various budget reform initiatives. Following a presentation by the Secretariat, Delegates will separate into two discussion groups. Each group will consider the Framework in detail and discuss how it can be applied to meet the fiscal challenges facing our countries. We will then reconvene in plenary for reports back by each of the discussion groups.

A coffee break will be called during the session.

19:00 Gala Dinner and Social Event

Friday, 28 October 2022

09:00 - 09:30 Welcome back

09:30 - 10:45Communicating with the public

Skilful communication and engagement with the public in order to increase awareness and understanding of public finance issues is of vital importance. At the same time, it is inherently challenging to reach out to a wider public on a technical issue where they may lack expertise and even interest. In this session, colleagues from PEMPAL will offer insights on effective communications with the public, and how public engagement can be improved.

The session will be followed by a coffee break.

11:15 - 12:30 **Gender Budgeting**

Gender equality is a basic human right and gender budgeting has traditionally been focused on raising awareness of how budget proposals impact gender equality. The economic and fiscal case for gender budgeting is also very strong. In particular, gender budgeting can be applied with a specific lens to increase women's participation in the labour market. This is especially important in view of the demographic transition where countries invariably face a decline in the proportion of the population of working age. This session will consider these issues as well as presenting the OECD's latest work on gender budgeting.

12:30 - 13:00Report by the OECD Secretariat & Future Work Programme

This Session updates Delegates on the OECD's current and future work programme on budgeting and public expenditures, and provides an opportunity for Delegates to identify priority topics of interest.

13:00 Closing by the Chair and the OECD Secretariat

13:00 - 14:30 Luncheon