GROUP 1

Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Russia

Question 1 – **SUBJECT MATTER**

- Budget Community of Practice (BCOP) and the country that hosts the meeting (the Russian Federation) proposed budget transparency in the treasury as the common topic for the cross COPs meeting. Does your group agree with that topic?

YES, WE ARE FOR TRANSPARENCY AND FOR ACCOUNTABILITY!

➢ Relevance and comprehensiveness of the topic

➢ 4 PEM PAL countries demonstrated improvements in the rating for 2012 in comparison with 2010.

➢ Russia (the hosting country) improved its positions and is ready to share its experience, IMF Manual on Fiscal Transparency is being tested in the country

Question 2 - **SUBJECT MATTER**

Sub- topics:

- What do authorities do in order to make available data on different stages of the budgetary process?

- Authorities should be accountable to the society. What does that mean?

- It is a duty of the authorities to enhance understanding of the role of public finance by the public at large

Question 2 - **SUBJECT MATTER**

Sub- topics:

- The methodology for evaluating transparency (PEFA, budget transparency index. etc.)
- Public participation in the budgetary process and work with the civil society. For example, the best practices of countries in preparation of the citizen's budget, cooperation with NGOs.
- Transparency of budgets of the local level and availability of information on outcomes financed from budgetary funds (from budgets of different levels) at the local level
- Risks associated with transparency
- Access not only to financial information, but also to information on results and on efficiency of budgetary spending at all stages of the budgetary process
- The roles of information technologies in ensuring transparency
- Budgetary reporting standards and the role of accounting in ensuring transparency
- Transparency at the stage of budget planning

Question 3 - **FORMAT**

➢ 2. 5 days is the optimal duration

➢ Quantity – 2 representatives from one country plus leaders: about 150 persons

➢ The 1st and the 2nd day: ½ day – presentations / ½ day - working groups

➢ The 3rd day: summing up and results

➢ *Mixed groups*

➢ Reports on work in groups – presentations in the morning of the next day

➢ Preferably, not more than 15 persons in a group (it is difficult to find 10 rooms for groups to work).

➢ Is it possible to use a format of topical sessions with speeches prepared in advance, in order to reduce the number of groups?

➢ Mounts devoted to work of communities of practice and presentations on results – to include in the program

➢ To allocate roles in terms of making closing remarks, preparation of the summary, evaluation, etc. (functional groups of the community)

Question 4 - **PREPARATION**

We propose:

➢ To update transparency ratings and indices (to the extent possible)

➢ To carry out deep topical survey and to analyze results in order to present them later at the plenary session

➢ To get familiar with methods of conducting meetings and with instruments (in particular, experience of   the Internal Audit Service (IAS))

➢ Mounts on results of work of each COP

➢ To prepare a video clip – a business card for the opening (Secretariat)

➢ To establish a Steering Committee for preparation of the agenda (2 persons from each COP)

Thank you for attention!