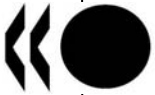


Unclassified

C(2007)103/FINAL



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

03-Dec-2007

English/French

COUNCIL

C(2007)103/FINAL
Unclassified

Council

**ROADMAP FOR THE ACCESSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OECD
CONVENTION**

(adopted by the Council at its 1163rd session on 30 November 2007)

JT03237383

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

English/French

1. This roadmap implements the Council decisions referred to below and provides a process to enable Member countries to assess the willingness and ability of the Russian Federation to assume the obligations of membership. The roadmap aims ultimately at assisting Council in coming, at the end of the accession process, to a decision on the terms and conditions of the invitation to accede to the OECD Convention that it may wish to extend to the Russian Federation.

2. Council agreed at its 1155th session on 10-13 May 2007 to A General Procedure for Future Accessions [C(2007)31/FINAL], which sets out a common framework and main elements for carrying out any accession process known as a roadmap.

3. On 16 May 2007, the Council of OECD meeting at Ministerial level adopted a Resolution which contained the following decision [C/MIN(2007)4/FINAL]:

“THE COUNCIL

...

- ii) Decides to open discussions with Chile, Estonia, Israel, the Russian Federation and Slovenia and invites the Secretary-General to set out the terms, conditions and process for the accession of each of these countries to the OECD for subsequent consideration and adoption by Council.”

I. Fundamental values and like-mindedness

4. The Council reaffirms that OECD Membership is committed to fundamental values, which candidate countries are expected to share. These fundamental values serve as the foundation of the like-mindedness of OECD Members and have been expressed in various OECD Ministerial Communiqués. Accepting these values, along with the established body of OECD instruments, standards and benchmarks, is a requirement for membership.

5. These fundamental values include a commitment to pluralist democracy based on the rule of law and the respect of human rights, adherence to open and transparent market economy principles and a shared goal of sustainable development.

6. The OECD is committed to improving policies in both the national and international context, and to be an especially potent instrument of global change and reform. The Council recalls that OECD has unique working methods for advancing international co-operation, which are based on the sharing of experiences and best practices and frank and open dialogue among governments.

7. During the accession process, the Council may raise questions on these values at any time, in particular in light of discussions in the substantive Committees and other bodies. It may also review regularly a candidate country's progress towards these fundamental values and its commitment to OECD's working methods, including in the framework of dedicated meetings in which representatives of the candidate country may be invited to discuss issues of concern. If, in the course of discussions, questions of like-mindedness arise in Council, the Secretary-General would address the matter with the candidate country with a view to resolving the issue of concern. This process would take place concurrently with the examination of the candidate country by the substantive Committees and other bodies, with the two streams of work being interactive and dynamic.

II. Examinations under OECD instruments and policy reviews

A. General description of the process

i) *Overview*

8. In order to allow Council to take an informed decision on whether to invite the Russian Federation to accede to the OECD Convention and therefore become a Member, the Russian Federation will be requested to position itself vis-à-vis all the legal substantive instruments adopted within the OECD framework prior to its joining the Organisation. This will not only concern instruments already in place at the time of opening of negotiations with the Russian Federation but also any new instruments that may be adopted up to the time of accession. In assessing the Russian Federation's position, the Council will call on the Secretary-General to advise it on deliberations and formal opinions by OECD Committees and other bodies on the willingness and ability of the Russian Federation to assume the obligations of membership in the relevant fields. The Russian Federation will not need to position itself on instruments concerning the internal functioning of the Organisation as these must be purely and simply accepted.

9. The accession process will also include the examination of the Russian Federation's general economic policies as well as its policies in a certain number of other key areas in which there are few or no OECD legal instruments. The aim is to ensure that there is coherence between these policies and those in place in OECD Members countries. In this endeavor, Council will again be assisted by the Secretary-General to provide the formal opinion as prepared by different OECD bodies on this matter.

10. The list of issues and OECD bodies described below is meant to incorporate those that are relevant to the accession process of candidate countries today. However, in response to changing circumstances, the Council may introduce changes to the roadmap during the accession process.

ii) *Obligations of membership*¹

11. The main obligations of membership are contained in the Convention on the OECD (as interpreted in the light of the report of the OECD Preparatory Committee of December 1960) and include:

- a) acceptance of the aims of the Organisation, as expressed in Article 1 of the Convention;
- b) the undertakings contained in Article 2 of the Convention;
- c) the commitments in Article 3 of the Convention.

12. OECD membership obligations also include:

- a) acceptance of the Acts of the Organisation in force at the time of the invitation to accede, the Russian Federation being nevertheless entitled to refuse to accept certain Acts, make certain declarations in respect thereof, or to make its acceptance subject to reservations;
- b) acceptance of certain rules, standards and benchmarks generally accepted by OECD Members, as appropriate;
- c) the conclusion of an appropriate Agreement on the privileges and immunities of the Organisation; this will involve a review and improvement, where necessary, of the Agreement on privileges and immunities currently in place between the Organisation and the Russian Federation to bring it in line with the privileges and immunities which Member countries should be prepared to recognise to the benefit of the Organisation in order to ensure its independence and proper functioning.

¹ See also for information the document entitled *The Concept of the OECD "Acquis"* [C(2007)30/REV1].

13. A distinction must be made for the purposes of acceptance of the Acts of the Organisation between those which any candidate country must necessarily accept as they stand and those which may be the subject of declarations, exclusions or reservations on its part.

14. The Acts that any candidate must necessarily accept as they stand are those which bind all present Members and in respect of which no reservation would be acceptable, having regard to their object and purpose. These are basically the following:

- The rules applicable to financial and budget matters, the most important ones being the Financial Regulations and Rules;
- The rules applicable to staff matters, the most important ones being the Staff Regulations and Rules applicable to officials;
- The OECD Rules of Procedure, the Council Resolution on Governance, participation of non Member economies, classification of material and, more generally, any other internal decision/resolution/conclusion adopted by Council regarding the functioning of the Organisation.

For completeness, one also would add acceptance of all the judgements of the OECD Administrative Tribunal.

15. In accordance with Article 5 a) and b) of the OECD Convention, the Acts of the Organisation include a significant number of Decisions and Recommendations which concern matters relating to substantive policy in Member countries. Decisions are legally binding, except for Member countries which have abstained at the time of their adoption. Recommendations, in accordance with Article 18 b) of the Rules of Procedure, are "submitted to the Members for consideration in order that they may, if they consider it opportune, provide for their implementation"; although Recommendations are not legally binding, they may have considerable impact on the policies and legislation of Member countries and the position of candidate countries regarding them is taken into account in the accession procedure. Other Acts, also taken under Article 5 a) of the OECD Convention, relate to the functioning of the Organisation.

16. As regards the Acts and instruments focusing on matters that concern the substantive policy in Member countries, a candidate country may adopt, in principle, four different attitudes:

- a) acceptance;
- b) rejection;
- c) acceptance subject to reservations or various kinds of declarations;
- d) acceptance with a specified time frame for implementation.

17. The position adopted by the Russian Federation in regard to the various substantive OECD Acts and other relevant instruments will be a crucial element of Council's assessment of the Russian Federation's ability and willingness to assume the obligations of membership and hence, for its decision regarding a possible invitation to the Russian Federation to accede to the Convention and the terms and conditions thereof. It is expected that candidate countries will use, as sparingly as possible, the options of rejections or acceptance subject to reservations or declarations. Indeed, resorting to such options could affect the final decision of Council.

18. Apart from these Acts, new types of instruments have emerged from the practice of the Organisation, such as Ministerial Declarations (*e.g.* on environment or social policy) and international agreements or arrangements developed in the OECD framework (*e.g.* on anti-bribery, export credits and shipbuilding). These instruments are not Acts of the Organisation in formal terms since they have not been adopted by a body of the OECD, but they have been approved by the Governments of Member countries in the OECD context and noted by Council. They often lead to monitoring by OECD bodies and play an important part in the life of the Organisation. Account will be taken of the position of the Russian Federation towards such instruments as part of the accession procedure. Moreover, a number of rules, standards and benchmarks developed outside the OECD framework but by which the OECD Members generally abide will also be considered as relevant in determining the willingness and ability of the Russian Federation to become an OECD Member (*e.g.* position on major multilateral environmental agreements or in relation to FATF, IMF, WTO or ILO obligations).

19. With respect to WTO, it should be underlined that membership in that organisation is considered essential for becoming a Member of the OECD.

20. In practice, the real starting point of the technical discussions concerning the terms and conditions of accession will be the submission by the Russian Federation to the Secretary-General of an initial memorandum. This document will specify to what extent it accepts the legal or political obligations resulting from each of the substantive OECD Acts and other relevant instruments and assess the compatibility of its legislation and policies with these obligations. If the Russian Federation wishes to accept certain obligations or commitments subject to reservations, the initial memorandum must set them out and briefly explain and justify them. If the Russian Federation does not accept an instrument altogether, the document must explain on what grounds. Reservations to the Codes of Liberalisation and exceptions to national treatment must reflect the state of legislation and regulations in force. Other substantive Decisions, Recommendations instruments may be accepted even if the Russian Federation's legislation or regulations are not yet in accordance with them, provided that the Russian Federation undertakes to make the necessary changes within a reasonable period, to be specified, and justified wherever possible.

21. The position taken by the Russian Federation in regard to certain instruments, as expressed in the initial memorandum, possibly amended following the Russian Federation's discussions with the Secretariat, will then be submitted to the relevant OECD bodies, as explained in Section II.B. The Russian Federation's position with respect to other instruments not to be reviewed by a body will be presented directly to the Council by the Secretary-General together with his analysis thereof. In preparing this analysis, the Secretary-General will consult the Chairs of bodies working in the relevant field. The content of this memorandum, as revised during the examination process, will be incorporated in the statement by the Russian Federation. This statement will set out the final position it proposes to adopt with regard to these instruments and, in particular, any exclusion, reservation or declaration it intends to make in this connection, if it is invited to accede to the OECD Convention.

iii) General role of the Secretariat

22. Throughout the process, the Secretariat will:

- assist the Russian Federation in complying with the requirements of the procedure and provide its authorities with any clarifications they may seek in this respect;
- provide Members, through the Council or the OECD bodies, with any material they may require for the consideration of the Russian Federation's application for membership;
- facilitate coordination between Members and the Russian Federation.

23. The Secretariat may be called upon to help the Russian Federation prepare the presentation of their formal position, advise them on possible improvements thereto and on its readiness to be examined by appropriate bodies and the OECD Council. In particular, the Secretariat will review the initial memorandum of the Russian Federation regarding the acceptance of the relevant instruments. The Secretariat will endeavour to reply to any questions raised in relation to these instruments and help the Russian Federation's authorities improve this memorandum so that it responds as much as possible to the OECD Members' expectations.

B. Examination by OECD bodies of the Russian Federation's position with respect to OECD instruments or instruments generally accepted by its Members

24. In their field of competence, the following bodies will examine the Russian Federation's proposed position with respect to OECD instruments, standards and benchmarks and on the adequacy of the Russian Federation's policies taking into account its economic and social situation. Each body will provide the Council with its formal opinion on the Russian Federation's ability and willingness to assume the obligations of membership in that field. Appendices A.I to A.XII to this roadmap contain OECD criteria and instruments relevant for each of these bodies. At the same time, the Council may review the evaluation of other bodies, such as the International Energy Agency or the Development Assistance Committee to determine the candidate country's alignment with OECD countries best practices.

These bodies are the:

- Investment Committee;
- Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions;
- Committee on Fiscal Affairs
- Chemicals Committee;
- Environment Policy Committee;
- Steering Group on Corporate Governance;
- Committee on Financial Markets;
- Insurance and Private Pensions Committee;
- Competition Committee;
- Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy;
- Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy;
- Committee on Consumer Policy.

C. Consideration of the Russian Federation's policies by other bodies

25. The accession process will also include the examination of the Russian Federation's general economic policies as well as its policies in a certain number of key areas in which there are few or no OECD legal instruments. The aim is to ensure that there is a maximum degree of coherence with Member countries policies. In this examination, Council will rely on the support of the Secretary-General who will contact OECD Committees and other bodies to provide their formal opinion on the matter. The Secretary-

General will also be called upon to advise Council on certain other areas where it does not appear necessary or practical to request an OECD body to provide a formal opinion.

26. The following bodies will consider and discuss the Russian Federation's policies in areas in which there are few or no OECD legal instruments and provide Council with their formal opinion on the degree of coherence between these policies and those in place in OECD Member countries. Appendices B.I to B.V to this roadmap contain OECD criteria relevant for each of these bodies.

These bodies are the:

- Economic and Development Review Committee;
- Committee on Statistics;
- Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee;
- Trade Committee and the Working Party on Export Credits;
- Public Governance Committee;

27. The following sectoral bodies will consider and discuss the Russian Federation's policies in their respective areas of competence.

These bodies are the:

- Council Working Party on Shipbuilding;
- Fisheries Committee;
- Steel Committee;
- Committee for Agriculture
- Health Committee

D. Information on other OECD instruments and scheduled policy reviews

28. The Secretary-General will provide to Council analytical reports on the Russian Federation's position on instruments not reviewed by any OECD bodies.

29. Further information on the Russian Federation's policies will be available to Council through the reviews already scheduled in the work programmes of certain bodies. In addition, it is possible that some other bodies, in which the Russian Federation participates as an observer or a full participant, may wish to discuss certain aspects of its policies in their respective fields as part of normal ongoing relations.

E. Optional participation in OECD bodies or programmes

30. As part of the accession procedure, the Russian Federation is invited to state whether it intends to participate in some or all of the Organisation's optional programmes or wishes to be considered for membership in OECD bodies with special membership criteria.² This concerns the International Energy

² If there are generally applicable OECD Acts adopted by Council in these fields, the Russian Federation may need to position itself with respect to those instruments whether it wishes or not to participate in these optional programmes or bodies.

Agency (membership of this Agency implies acceptance of specific obligations in the field of energy and would have to be negotiated directly with the Agency), the NEA (which requires a recommendation of the Steering Committee to Council), the Development Assistance Committee, the Development Center, as well as all the other Part II bodies and programmes. Should the Russian Federation express its intention to join some of these activities, the relevant OECD bodies will be involved in the accession procedure.

F. *Timing of the examinations by the bodies*

31. Consultations of bodies will be carried out in parallel. Appendix C to this roadmap contains an indicative schedule of meetings of OECD Committees and other bodies. The actual timing of the examinations will depend on the availability of the required information and on the progress made by the Russian Federation with the necessary work and reforms. It will be determined in close consultation with the Russian Federation's authorities and the OECD bodies.

III. *Concluding the Accession process*

A. *Conclusion of the examination of terms of accession*

32. When all the formal opinions of the OECD bodies and the reviews by the Secretariat are finalised, the Secretary-General will prepare a document thereon for Council's consideration. Council will then discuss these opinions, reviews and any outstanding fundamental value issues, as mentioned in paragraphs 4 to 7 above, and take a final decision on the terms and conditions of a possible invitation of the Russian Federation to accede to the OECD Convention.

33. When the examination of the terms of accession of the Russian Federation is complete, the Russian Federation's Government will need to send to the Secretary-General a statement:

- a) confirming its interest in accession;
- b) accepting the obligations of membership (as described in paragraphs 11 and 12 above), including in particular acceptance of the Acts of the Organisation, subject to such limits and reservations or observations as specified in the statement;
- c) specifying its position with regard to participation in optional programmes and bodies and with regard to arrangements and instruments which do not formally constitute Acts of the Organisation;
- d) setting out any additional undertakings that may be appropriate in light of the discussions on the terms and conditions of its membership.

B. *Invitation to accede to the OECD Convention*

34. On the basis of this statement, and having regard to the reports by the competent bodies and the Secretary-General and the outcome of its consideration of the fundamental values issues, the Council will then, decide by unanimity, in accordance with Article 16 of the Convention, whether to invite the Russian Federation to accede to the Convention on the terms and conditions which the latter has stated it is ready to accept. After the invitation, an Agreement would be signed between the Russian Federation and the Organisation which would incorporate, as its main elements, the statement of the Russian Federation and the Council's decision to invite it to accede. This Agreement would be made public.

C. Accession

35. Once an invitation to accede has been extended, it will be for the Russian Federation to take the appropriate steps at the national level to accede to the OECD Convention by depositing its instrument of accession with the French Government, the depository of the Convention.

36. The procedure concludes, following the practice of the Organisation, with a Resolution of the Council noting the accession and the date on which it takes effect.

IV. Resources required for the accession process

37. In accordance with the process described in the *General Procedure for Future Accession*, the Russian Federation will be required to pay the non-recurring costs associated with its accession. These costs will include OECD staff time and those associated with missions, meetings, documentation, co-ordination and management, communication and miscellaneous costs.

38. To ensure that the necessary resources are available in time to allow the accession process to proceed, the Russian Federation will be asked to make payments in advance of expenditure on the basis of Secretariat estimates of likely costs. These estimates, which will be made annually, will include a margin for unanticipated expenditures during the course of year ahead. These non-recurring costs, including the margin, for the period 2007 to 2009 inclusive are estimated to be M EUR 5.27.

39. However, the amount to be paid in respect of 2009 onwards and any subsequent years will need to be adjusted in the light of the costs actually incurred in the preceding year. For example, any funds unspent in 2008 will be applied to reduce the amount to be called up in 2009, but if costs incurred in 2008 exceed the Russian Federation's payment for that year it may be necessary for the Russian Federation to make a larger payment than suggested above in 2009. The total cost of accession may ultimately be greater or less than the amount estimated.

40. Costs for 2007 will be incurred following adoption of this roadmap by Council. The Russian Federation will be expected to pay the full amount of the 2007 and 2008 estimates (M EUR 3.06) before 1 January 2008. Payment for 2009 (provisionally estimated at M EUR 2.21) shall be due as of 1 January of that year. Should the time required to complete the accession process extend beyond 2009, additional payments would be needed as of 1 January 2010 and similarly for any subsequent years.

41. The final total amount to be covered by the Russian Federation on account of the non-recurring costs will be influenced among other factors by the speed of the process, the position that the Russian Federation will take in respect of the obligations of membership and its efficiency in providing required information. At the end of the accession process, an accounting of the final total amount of the non-recurring costs shall be provided by the Secretary-General to Council for its approval and final settlement with the Russian Federation. Any outstanding balance shall be paid by the Russian Federation or reimbursed by the Organisation as the case may be.

V. Practical arrangements

42. In order to ensure optimal efficiency in the accession process, the Russian Federation shall correspond with the Organisation and make all documentation available in one of the official languages of the Organisation or provide official translations of such correspondence or documentation.

43. The Russian Federation should also nominate and maintain at all times a key high level contact person entrusted with coordinating national authorities involved in the accession process and facilitating contacts and operational matters arising in connection with the implementation of this process.

APPENDICES A.I TO A.XII

Appendices A.I to A.XII contain the list of the OECD bodies that will examine candidate countries' position with respect to OECD instruments, standards and benchmarks. They may also be called upon to review other issues. These bodies are the Investment Committee, the Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions, the Committee on Fiscal Affairs, the Chemicals Committee, the Environment Policy Committee, the Steering Group on Corporate Governance, the Committee on Financial Markets, the Insurance and Private Pensions Committee, the Competition Committee, the Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy, the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy and the Committee on Consumer Policy.

APPENDIX A. I

Investment Committee

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles on cross border capital movements and services, foreign direct investment and multinational enterprises:

- full compliance with the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and ‘standstill’, in accordance with the OECD Codes of Liberalisation and the National Treatment instrument of the OECD Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises (reservations under the Codes must be limited to existing restrictions);
- an open and transparent regime for FDI including in key sectors such as energy. Restrictions must be limited and concern sectors where restrictions are not uncommon in OECD countries;
- liberalisation of other long-term capital movements, including equity investment and debt instruments of a maturity of one year or more; commercial credit and other capital operations relating to international trade are also to be liberalised; a timetable for the abolition of remaining controls on short-term capital movements is required;
- no restrictions on payments or transfers in connection with international current account transactions; the candidate countries must comply with all IMF Article VIII requirements;
- relaxation of restrictions on cross-border trade in services, particularly banking, insurance and other financial services;
- fair and transparent implementing practices and proportionality of the measures relative to the stated objective pursued;
- effective enforcement of intellectual property rights;
- key commitments under investment protection and other international agreements;
- capacity to present a credible plan for the establishment of a visible, accessible, transparent and accountable National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; evidence of the candidate's commitment to the various international instruments cited in the Guidelines.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments.

- Decisions on the Codes of Liberalisation of Capital Movements and Current Invisible Operations (1961 and subsequent amendments).
- Decisions related to the Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises (1976 and subsequent amendments).

The Investment Committee (and its subsidiary bodies) will review and assess the willingness and ability of the candidate countries to accept the obligations of these instruments.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries' position through a review by the Investment Committee and the subsidiary bodies concerned:

- Recommendation on the OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment (1995, currently being revised).
- Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises (1976 and subsequent amendments).

In addition, the candidate countries would be required to complete the IMF/OECD Survey of Implementation of Methodological Standards for Direct Investment and agree to report data for the compilation of the *OECD International Direct Investment Yearbook* and the annual report on FDI trends published in *International Investment Perspectives*, in accordance with the timetable and template agreed by Members.

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature. The position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat :

- Recommendation on OECD Principles for Private Sector Participation in Infrastructure (2007).

C) Other Issues

None.

APPENDIX A. II

Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles:

- full compliance with the requirements of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions;
- a satisfactory legal framework for combating bribery on a domestic level;
- criminalisation of bribery of foreign public officials;
- disallowance of the tax deductibility of bribes and whether it has in place adequate accounting and auditing requirements;
- ability to co-operate with other Parties to the Convention;
- enforcement capacity for investigation and prosecution of bribery cases;
- readiness and ability to undergo and to participate in peer reviews of other Parties to the Convention.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments and Recommendations as outlined below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments

- Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (1997).

Assessment of the willingness and ability of the candidate countries to meet the obligations of OECD membership may require a separate discussion among countries that are both OECD Members and Parties to the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries willingness and ability to meet the requirements of OECD membership. This assessment may require a separate discussion among countries that are both OECD Members and Parties to the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions.

- Revised Council Recommendation on Combating Bribery in International Business Transactions (1997);³

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature the position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat.

None.

C. Other Issues.

None.

³ Assessment under this Recommendation will include the candidate country's position under the Recommendation of the Council on the Tax Deductibility of Bribes to Foreign Public Officials, [C(1996)27/FINAL] (see also Appendix A. III) and the Recommendation of the Council on Bribery and Officially Supported Export Credits, [C(2006)163] (see also Appendix B. IV).

APPENDIX A. III

Committee on Fiscal Affairs

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core tax principles:

- eliminating international double taxation on income and capital through complying with the key substantive conditions underlying the OECD Model Tax Convention;
- eliminating double taxation through ensuring the primacy of the arm's length principle, as set forth in the OECD's Transfer Pricing Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Tax Administrations, for the determination of transfer pricing between associated enterprises;
- engaging in effective exchange of information according to the 2005 version of Article 26 of the OECD Model Convention;
- combating harmful tax practices in accordance with the 1998 Council Recommendation and related reports;
- eliminating double and unintentional non-taxation through the development and implementation of International VAT/GST Guidelines designed to encourage greater coherence and clarity when applying consumption taxes to international transactions.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments

- the 1996 Recommendation on the Tax Deductibility of Bribes to Foreign Public Officials (adherence to this Recommendation is explicitly required in order to join the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention);
- the joint OECD/Council of Europe Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (which is a legally binding multilateral convention which has now been signed by 13 OECD countries and 2 non-OECD countries).

The position of the candidate countries in regard of these instruments will be assessed through a review by the Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the subsidiary bodies concerned.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries position through a review by the Committee on Fiscal Affairs and the subsidiary bodies concerned:

- Recommendation concerning the Model Tax Convention on Income and on Capital.
- Revised Recommendation on the Determination of Transfer Pricing between Associated Enterprises.

- Recommendation on Implementing the Proposals contained in the 1998 Report on Harmful Tax Competition.

In addition, Recommendations building on the OECD Model Tax Convention concerning the Tax Treaty Override; the Granting and Design of Tax Sparing in Tax Conventions; Mutual Administrative Assistance in the Recovery of Tax Claims; and the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Estates and Inheritances and on Gifts will also need to be reviewed.

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature the position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat:

- Recommendation concerning an OECD Model Agreement for the Undertaking of Simultaneous Tax Examinations.
- Recommendation on the Use of Tax Identification Numbers in an International Context.
- Recommendation on the Use of the OECD Model Memorandum of Understanding on Automatic Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.
- Recommendation on the Use of the Revised OECD Standard Magnetic Format for Automatic Exchange of Information.

C) Other issues

The following elements will be among those to be taken into account to assess whether candidate countries are willing to take on the obligations of membership in the area of taxation. Candidate countries should:

- provide the comparative statistical information on their tax systems which is the basis for the Committee on Fiscal Affairs' analytical work, specifically the revenue statistics, taxing wages and the OECD tax data base;
- consider and follow, when appropriate, the best practices in tax administration developed by the Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

APPENDIX A. IV

Chemicals Committee

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of chemicals management principles:

- Minimising non-tariff barriers to trade in chemicals, specifically through the implementation of the Council Decisions related to the Mutual Acceptance of Data in the Assessment of Chemicals.
- Harmonising their chemical safety policies with those of OECD countries in order to (i) ensure that the instruments used to protect man and the environment are of comparable quality to those in member countries, (ii) promote an OECD-wide system of chemicals management, thereby contributing to creation of a level playing field, and (iii) increase the possibilities of work-sharing with OECD partners.
- Working together with OECD countries to encourage convergence of chemical safety policies of non-Members towards OECD standards.

These principles are reflected in the instruments outlined in the two sections below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments

- Decisions and Decision-Recommendations related to the Mutual Acceptance of Data in the Assessment of Chemicals [C(81)30], [C(89)87] and [C(97)114].
- Decision ensuring that sufficient information on the properties of new chemicals is available before they are marketed [C(82)196].
- Decisions ensuring that Member countries exchange relevant information for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to, accidents at hazardous installations capable of causing transfrontier damage and that adequate information is provided to the public [C(88)84], [C(88)85].
- Decision ensuring that Member countries stopped the manufacture, import, export and sale of PCBs [C(87)2].
- Decisions setting up programmes to assess the risks of chemicals on the market and to control those found to present a risk to man or the environment and to work together in OECD to share the burden of this enormous task [C(87)90], [C(90)163].

The position of the candidate countries in regard of these key instruments will be assessed through a review by the Chemicals Committee and its subsidiary bodies concerned.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

- Recommendations set out conditions for the exchange of confidential health, safety, and environmental data on chemicals between Member countries that is necessary for the assessment of chemicals and to protect proprietary rights [C(83)98], [C(83)97] and [C(83)96].

- Acts recommending guidance and principles related to information collection and exchange procedures and for the assessment and management of risks posed by chemicals, thereby promoting the establishment of a level playing field regarding chemicals management [C(2003)221], [C(2003)87], [C(84)37], [C(77)97], [C(74)215], [C(73)172] and [C(71)83], [C(96)42/Final].

Candidate countries will be invited to indicate whether they are in compliance with these instruments. In so far as the candidate countries are not in compliance, they will be invited to indicate whether they are willing and able to comply with them.

C) Other issues

None.

APPENDIX A. V

Environment Policy Committee

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles on environment policy:

- Ensure that the generation of hazardous and other waste are reduced and that adequate facilities for the environmentally sound management of waste are available, as requested by the 1989 Basel Convention;
- Ensure the reduction of exports of all wastes for final disposal, in accordance with environmentally sound and efficient management practices;
- Allow trade in waste as end-of-life materials and products destined for economically efficient and environmentally sound recovery operations within the OECD area.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments outlined below:

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments.

- Decision of the Council concerning the Control of Transboundary Movements of Wastes Destined for Recovery Operations [C(2001)107/FINAL].

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

- Recommendation on the Environmentally Sound Management of Waste [C(2004)100].
- Recommendation on a Comprehensive Waste Management Policy [C(76)155].

The position of candidate countries in regard of these key instruments will be assessed through a review by the EPOC Working Party on Waste Prevention and Recycling.

- Recommendations related to e.g. implementation of the Polluter-Pays principles; use of economic instruments; indicators and environmental information; pollution prevention and control; waste management; environmental performance of public procurement; good practices for public environmental expenditure management that are considered important for OECD Member countries (The list includes around forty Council Recommendations).

Candidate countries will be invited to indicate whether they are willing and able to comply with these Recommendations.

- Ministerial Declarations.

Candidate countries will be invited to indicate whether they could associate themselves with the policy objectives contained in Ministerial Declarations.

C) Other issues

i) A *General Review of Environmental Policy and Institutional Framework* in the Candidate countries will be also carried out. This is intended to help familiarise EPOC with the context within which any undertakings given by the candidate countries would be implemented.

ii) The Committee will examine the candidate countries' position in relation to *Multilateral Environmental Agreements* MEAs. Generally it will expect candidate countries to assume obligations in MEAs to the same extent than the ones accepted by most or all OECD Member countries.

APPENDIX A. VI

Steering Group on Corporate Governance

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core corporate governance principles:

- ensuring a consistent regulatory framework that provides for the existence and effective enforcement of shareholder rights and the equitable treatment of shareholders, including minority and foreign shareholders;
- requiring timely and reliable disclosure of corporate information in accordance with internationally recognised standards of accounting, auditing and non-financial reporting;
- establishing effective separation of the government's role as an owner of state owned companies and the government's role as regulator, particularly with regard to market regulation;
- ensuring a level-playing field in markets where state-owned enterprises and private sector companies compete in order to avoid market distortions;
- recognising stakeholder rights as established by law or through mutual agreements and the duties, rights and responsibilities of corporate boards of directors.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments

None.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

i) The Steering Group on Corporate Governance and its subsidiary body will need to review the willingness and capacity of the candidate countries to implement the recommendations in the following key legal instruments:

- OECD Principles of Corporate Governance (2004).
- OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises (2005).

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature. The position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat :

None.

C) Other issues

None.

APPENDIX A.VII

Committee on Financial Markets

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core financial market principles:

- Relaxation of restrictions on cross-border trade, investment and establishment in banking and other financial services, as required under the OECD Codes of Liberalisation.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments

- Decisions on Codes of Liberalisation of Capital Movements and Current Invisible Operations (1961-2004).

The Committee on Financial Markets will assist the Investment Committee in reviewing and assessing the willingness and ability of the candidate countries to accept the obligations of these instruments.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries' position through a review by the Committee on Financial Markets (CMF):

- OECD Recommendation on principles and good practices for financial education and awareness.

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature. The position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat.

None.

C) Other issues.

The Committee on Financial Markets will review the candidate countries financial system, including their market and regulatory structure, to assess whether they are market-oriented and sufficiently open, efficient and sound, based on high standards of transparency, confidence and integrity, for the candidate countries to be able to accept the requirements of membership in the area of financial markets.

APPENDIX A. VIII

Insurance and Private Pensions Committee

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core insurance and private pension principles:

- relaxation of restrictions on cross border trade, investment and establishment in insurance and pension services as required under the OECD Codes of Liberalisation;
- ensuring sound prudential regulation of private pension systems and protecting the rights of members and beneficiaries;
- ensuring sound prudential regulation of insurance and reinsurance markets and protecting the rights of policy holders and beneficiaries.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments.

- Decisions on Codes of Liberalisation of Capital Movements and Current Invisible Operations (1961-2004)

The Insurance and Private Pensions Committee, with its subsidiary bodies, will assist the Investment Committee in reviewing and assessing the willingness and ability of the candidate countries to accept the insurance and pension obligations of the Codes.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations.

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries position through a review by the Insurance and Private Pensions Committee and the subsidiary bodies concerned:

- Recommendation on core principles for occupational pension funds regulation;
- Recommendation on guidelines for pension fund asset management;
- Recommendation on guidelines on pension funding and benefit security;
- Recommendation on guidelines for pension fund governance;
- Recommendation on guidelines for insurers' governance;
- Recommendation on assessment of reinsurance companies.

ii) The following instruments are primarily of a technical or operational nature. The position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat:

- Recommendation on the establishment of a check-list of criteria to define terrorism for the purpose of compensation.
- Recommendation on Good Practices for insurance claim management.
- Recommendation concerning a common classification of the classes of insurance recognised by the supervisory authorities of the Member countries.

C) Other issues

None.

APPENDIX A. IX

Competition Committee

Candidate countries should commit to the following principles about competition law and policy:

- co-operating in investigations and proceedings applying competition laws, through notification and co-ordination pursuant to the 1995 Council Recommendation and through implementing the 2005 Best Practices for formal exchange of information;
- ensuring that competition laws, sanctions and enforcement procedures and institutions effectively halt, deter and remedy hard core cartels, pursuant to the 1998 Council Recommendation;
- considering carefully the costs and benefits of structural and behavioural measures in facing situations that combine non-competitive and competitive activities in regulated industries, particularly when undertaking privatisation, liberalisation and regulatory reform, following the 2001 Council Recommendation;
- ensuring that review of mergers is effective, efficient and timely, following the standards of the 2005 Council Recommendation;
- supporting effective competition policy and ensuring that regulatory restrictions on competition are proportionate to the public interests they serve, in accordance with the 2005 Guiding Principles;
- effective enforcement of intellectual property rights.

These principles are reflected in the recommendations, guidelines and best practices listed below.

A) OECD Decisions and other legally binding instruments.

None.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations.

i) The following key instruments have specific policy implications requiring an assessment of the candidate countries' position through a review by the Competition Committee and its subsidiary bodies:

- Recommendation of the Council Concerning Co-operation on Anticompetitive Practices Affecting International Trade (1995).
- Recommendation of the Council Concerning Effective Action against Hard Core Cartels (1998).
- Recommendation of the Council Concerning Structural Separation in Regulated Industries (2001).
- Recommendation of the Council Concerning Merger Review (2005).

ii) *The following instruments being primarily of a technical or operational nature. The position of the candidate countries will be assessed through a technical review by the Secretariat and transmitted to Council via the Competition Committee.*

None.

C) Other Issues.

The following elements will also be examined, through a review by the Competition Committee and its subsidiary bodies, to assess whether candidate countries are prepared for membership in the area of competition law and policy. Candidate countries should:

- accept the importance of effective competition policy and enforcement, including both vigorous enforcement of competition law and design of economic regulations in all sectors, including energy, to stimulate competition in accordance with the OECD Guiding Principles for Regulatory Quality and Performance (2005);
- support exchange of information, while safeguarding confidential information, pursuant to the Best Practices for the Formal Exchange of Information between Competition Authorities in Hard Core Cartel Investigations (2005) developed by the Competition Committee.

APPENDIX A. X

Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles on science and technology policy:

- develop policies and good practices as regards the accessibility, use and management of research data;
- promote mutually-beneficial international technology co-operation, economic growth and social development and address barriers that may affect such co-operation;
- promote mutually beneficial scientific and technological exchanges and remove barriers which have harmful effects on scientific and technological progress and its contribution to economic growth and social development;
- promote, individually and collectively, advances in scientific and technological knowledge;
- promote policies which encourage and protect innovation while supporting the diffusion and access to knowledge.

These principles are reflected in the Instruments, Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices outlined below.

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments.

None.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

- Recommendation on General Framework of Principles for International Co-operation in Science and Technology [C(88)60/Final].
- Recommendation on Principles for Facilitating International Technology Co-operation Involving Enterprises [C(95)182/FINAL].
- Recommendation on Access to Research Data from Public Funding. [C(2006)184].

These instruments will require an assessment of the candidate countries position through a review by the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy:

C) Other issues

The following elements will be among those to be taken into account to assess whether candidate countries are willing to take on the obligations of membership in the area of science and technology. Candidate countries should:

- provide the comparative statistical information, according to OECD guidelines such as the Frascati Manual, the Oslo Manual and the Patent Manual on their science and technology performance which is the basis for the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy's analytical work;
- consider and follow, when appropriate, the best practices in science and technology policy, including intellectual property rights developed by the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy.

Working Party on Biotechnology

In the biotechnology field, the policies and practices of accession countries will be assessed against OECD Guidelines and widely accepted best practices:

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments

None.

B) OECD Recommendations

- Recommendation on the Licensing of Genetic Inventions (2006)
- Recommendation on Quality Assurance in Molecular Genetic Testing (2007)

The position of the candidate countries in regard to these instruments will be assessed through a review by the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy and the subsidiary body concerned.

C) Other issues

The following element will be among those to be taken into account to assess whether candidate countries are willing to take on the obligations of membership in the area of biotechnology:

- Best Practice Guidelines on Biological Resource Centres [DSTI/STP/BIO(2007)9/FINAL].

APPENDIX A. XI

Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles:

- protection of individuals' personal data in accordance with fair information practices;
- measures to promote a culture of security in the use of information systems and networks, including raising awareness of risks to systems and networks and development of policies, practices and procedures to address those risks;
- policies to assist the development of broadband markets, promote efficient and innovative supply arrangements and encourage effective use of broadband services;
- enforcement co-operation against spam, including establishment of a domestic framework of laws and spam enforcement authorities, and improving the ability of their spam enforcement authorities to co-operate with foreign counterparts.

The adherence of candidate countries to the principles set out above will be assessed against OECD "norms", including on digital divide and distribution issues, and against rules and practices in the telecommunications area.

These principles are reflected in the Guidelines and Recommendations outlined below.

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments.

None.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

- Recommendation concerning Guidelines Governing the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data (1980).
- Recommendation concerning Guidelines for the Security of Information Systems and Networks (2002).
- Recommendation on Broadband Development (2004).
- Recommendation on Cross-border Co-operation in the Enforcement of Laws against Spam (2006).
- Recommendation on Cross-border Co-operation in the Enforcement of Laws Protecting Privacy (2007).

The position of the candidate countries in regard to these instruments will be assessed through a review by the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy and the subsidiary body concerned.

C) Other issues

None.

APPENDIX A. XII

Committee on Consumer Policy

Candidate countries should commit to the following set of core principles:

- effective protections for consumers engaging in electronic transactions (e-commerce/ m-commerce) , including:
 - information about terms and conditions of transactions;
 - information about the goods or services in question;
 - secure and easy-to-use payment mechanisms;
 - access to dispute resolution and redress;
 - protection of consumers' personal data;
- enforcement co-operation against cross-border fraudulent and deceptive practices affecting consumers, including:
 - effective domestic measures to investigate, prosecute and deter such practices;
 - authority to co-operate with foreign law enforcement agencies including by enhanced notification, information sharing and investigative assistance;
 - effective mechanisms to provide consumer victims with redress.

The adherence of candidate countries to the principles set out above will be assessed against OECD instruments.

These principles are reflected in the Guidelines and Recommendations outlined below.

A) OECD decisions and other legally binding instruments.

None.

B) OECD Recommendations and Declarations

- Recommendation concerning Guidelines for Consumer Protection in the Context of Electronic Commerce (1999).
- Recommendation concerning Guidelines for Protecting Consumers from Fraudulent and Deceptive Commercial Practices across Borders (2003).
- Recommendation on Consumer Dispute Resolution and Redress (2007).

The position of candidate countries in regard to these instruments will be assessed through a review by the Committee on Consumer Policy.

C) Other issues

None.

APPENDICES B.I TO B.V

Appendices B I. to B.V contain the list of the OECD bodies that will examine candidate countries' general economic policies as well as their policies in a certain number of key areas in which there are few or no OECD legal instruments. These bodies are the Economic and Development Review Committee, the Committee on Statistics, the Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee, the Trade Committee and the Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees and the Public Governance Committee.

APPENDIX B. I

Economic and Development Review Committee

Candidate countries need to be subject to peer review on their overall economic policies through an Economic Survey to be reviewed in the Economic and Development Review Committee. These peer reviews establish an overall context within which the candidate countries' positions vis-à-vis specific OECD instruments can be assessed. Three aspects of economic performance are of general importance in the context of these reviews:

- a) the robustness of the macroeconomic policy framework as well as the soundness of the financial system to ensure that the candidate countries can cope adequately with a range of shocks;
- b) structural policy settings across product, labour and financial markets that are consistent with promoting rapid convergence of per capita incomes toward OECD levels;
- c) an environment, including in terms of public governance and political economy, that suggests that the candidate countries will be able to meet their accession commitments on a sustainable basis.

In addition, the "key challenges" framework, within which this peer review will be conducted, is likely to identify country specific areas, for instance the management of energy resources that will require an in-depth treatment. In addressing such specific issues, the Secretariat will draw fully on expertise available throughout the Organisation, including in other OECD bodies.

APPENDIX B. II**Committee on Statistics**

One of the basic obligations of membership expressed in Article 3 a) of the Convention is to “furnish the Organisation with the information necessary for the accomplishment of its tasks”. This includes providing short-term, structural and other analytical statistics and their associated methodological information needed by the Organisation for adequate policy analysis and surveillance. The Committee on Statistics will therefore:

- a) examine the legal and institutional framework for statistics in the candidate countries and their conformity with the principles applied in OECD countries;
- b) assess the quality of the data available in the candidate countries and their comparability with data available in OECD Member countries;
- c) ensure the candidate countries' integration in the Organisation's reporting and information systems upon accession.

APPENDIX B. III

Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee

Major developments and policy issues in the employment and social fields in candidate countries need to be reviewed in order to assess whether the institutional labour market, training and social protection frameworks are conducive to promoting economic prosperity for all and facilitating economic adjustment. The Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee will therefore compare the candidate countries and OECD performances through an in-depth review, covering in particular the following areas:

- a) labour market and training policies and institutions as well as industrial relations systems, and the extent to which country the candidate countries' policies and institutions are in line with the Restated OECD Jobs Strategy;
- b) policies to promote the transition from informal to formal employment;
- c) the financial and social sustainability of policies intended to promote social integration and cohesion, including retirement income policies, support for families with children, and measures designed to assist people without jobs.

APPENDIX B. IV**Trade Committee and the Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees**

These bodies will review the candidate countries' trade policies and practices and their impact on the multilateral trading system in order to achieve greater transparency in, and understanding of, the trade policies and practices of candidate countries vis-à-vis those in Member countries and foster changes, where appropriate. The review process is expected to rely on a "Market Openness" document that would examine the candidate countries' trade policies in a number of areas, including:

- a) transparency and openness of decision making;
- b) market access in goods, services and agriculture;
- c) intellectual property rights;
- d) export credits.⁴

⁴ This will include a review of the position of the candidate country on the Recommendation on common approaches on environment and officially supported export credits [C(2007)65] and the Recommendation on Bribery and officially supported export credits [C(2006)163].

APPENDIX B. V

Public Governance Committee

The Public Governance Committee will review quality of the candidate countries' policies and institutions for public governance as these are necessary for ensuring policy effectiveness, economic development and efficiency and sound fiscal balances, and for maximising the quality of government expenditure. In this regard, the Public Governance Committee has developed a set of Building Blocks and Guiding Elements for Public Governance which will be used as a framework and benchmark tool for policy dialogue on public management issues in accession countries. The Committee will therefore examine:

- a) budget practices and procedures;
- b) human resource management;
- c) integrity in the public sector, transparency and accountability, e-government readiness;
- d) structure of government, management of regulatory quality and administrative simplification, multilevel governance relations.

APPENDIX C

Normal schedule of meetings of OECD Bodies which will be involved in the accession process

1. Investment Committee

Date	Meetings
	2007
1-5 October	Investment Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
10-14 December	Investment Committee (to be confirmed)
	2008
25-27 March	Investment Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
6-10 October	Investment Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
15-17 December	Investment Committee (to be confirmed)

2. Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions

Date	Meetings
	2007
9-11 October	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions
5-7 December	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions
	2008
18-20 March	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions
17-19 June	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions
14-16 October	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions
9-11 December	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions

3. Committee on Fiscal Affairs

Date	Meetings
	2007
24 October	Working Party 8 on Exchange of Information
13-14 November	Forum on Harmful Tax Practices; Working Party 2 on Tax Policy
15 November	Working Party 2 on Tax Policy; Working Party 9 on Consumption Taxes
16 November	Working Party 9 on Consumption Taxes & Environment Experts
29-30 November	Working Party 6 on Taxation of Multinationals
	2008
29-30 January	Committee on Fiscal Affairs
26-29 February	Working Party 1 on Tax Treaties
13-14 March	Working Party 6 on Taxation of Multinationals

4. Chemicals Committee

Date	Meetings
	2008
13-15 February 2008	Chemicals Committee
5-7 November 2008	Chemicals Committee

5. Environment Policy Committee

Date	2007
29-30 November	Environment Policy Committee
	2008
April	Working Group on Waste Prevention and Recycling
May	Environment Policy Committee

6. Steering Group on Corporate Governance

Date	Meetings
	2007
2-3 October	Working Group on Privatisation and Corporate Governance of State-Owned Assets
13-14 November	Steering Group on Corporate Governance
	2008
March	Working Group on Privatisation and Corporate Governance of State-Owned Assets
April	Steering Group on Corporate Governance
October	Working Group on Privatisation and Corporate Governance of State-Owned Assets
November	Steering Group on Corporate Governance

7. Committee on Financial Markets

Date	Meetings
	2007
25-26 October 2007	Committee on Financial Markets
	2008
April 2008	Committee on Financial Markets
October 2008	Committee on Financial Markets

8. Insurance and Private Pensions Committee

Date	Meetings
	2007
December 2007	Insurance and Private Pensions Committee and Working Party on Private Pensions
	2008
June 2008	Insurance and Private Pensions Committee and Working Party on Private Pensions
December 2008	Insurance and Private Pensions Committee and Working Party on Private Pensions

9. Competition Committee

Date	Meetings
	2007
15-18 October	Competition Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
	2008
18-20 February	Competition Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
9-12 June	Competition Committee and Subsidiary Bodies
20-23 October	Competition Committee and Subsidiary Bodies

10. Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy

Date	Meetings
	2007
1-2 October	Global Science Forum
24-26 October	Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy
12-14 November	Working Party on Biotechnology and Working Group on Human Health-related Biotechnologies
15-16 November	Working Party on Nanotechnology
10-12 December	Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy
	2008
6-7 March	Global Science Forum
31 March	Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy
1 April	Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy
11-13 June	Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy
16-18 June	Working Party of National Experts on Science and Technology Indicators

11. Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy

Date	Meetings
	2007
1-2 October	Working Party on Information Security and Privacy
4-5 October	Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy
3-4 December	Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy
5-6 December	Working Party on the Information Economy
	2008
10-11 March	Working Party on Information Security and Privacy
12-14 March	Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy
29-30 April	Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society
16-17 October	Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy
8-10 December	Working Party on the Information Economy
11-12 December	Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy