

Minutes of the PEMPAL TCOP Executive Committee meeting, September 22d, 2013

TCOP Executive Committee held a meeting on September 22d, 2013 in London, United Kingdom.

The meeting was attended by: Mimoza Pilkati (Ministry of Finance, Albania), Vugar Abdulayev (Ministry of Finance, Azerbaijan), Nino Tchelishvili (Ministry of Finance, Georgia), Zaifun Yernazarova (Ministry of Finance, Kazakhstan), Angela Voronin (Ministry of Finance, Moldova), Alexandr Demidov (Federal Treasury of Russia), Ismatullo Hakimov (Ministry of Finance, Tajikistan), Natalia Sushko (State Treasury, Ukraine), Elena Nikulina (PEMPAL Program Team Leader, World Bank), Ion Chicu (TCOP resource person, World Bank), Robert Bauchmuller (PEMPAL Secretariat representative).

Agenda items discussed:

- 1. Study visit to London**
- 2. Thematic meeting in Skopje**
- 3. TCOP events scheduled for October 2013- February 2014 period:**
 - *Study visit to Ankara (November 19-21st, 2013)*
 - *Thematic videoconference for IT thematic group (October 9th, 2013)*
 - *Thematic videoconference devoted to Russian Federation experience in treasury bodies' performance evaluation (November 14th, 2013)*
 - *TCOP full format workshop on public sector accounting and reporting topic (February 2014)*
- 4. Discussion on TCOP contribution to the 2014 PEMPAL Plenary Meeting preparation. TCOP internal working schedule for the end of May 2014.**

1. Study visit to London

The meeting started with a brief update on the current status of preparation of the TCOP Executive Committee study visit to the UK Treasury in London. It was reported that all event preparation activities had been successfully accomplished. All presentations envisaged by the visit agenda have been received and translated, and all speakers representing Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT), International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) and Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), confirmed their participation.

2. Thematic meeting in Skopje

Ion Chicu has updated the meeting participants with the status of preparation of the TCOP thematic meeting devoted to the public sector accounting and reporting topic in Skopje. It was reported that in spite of some delays with several participating countries' presentations submission, all Skopje event preparation activities were on track. The TCOP Executive Committee members have been invited to take active part in the event activities, especially the three thematic group discussion sessions. Also, the meeting participants have agreed to prepare a brief presentation on the results of the study visit to London, which was envisaged to be presented during the Skopje meeting opening session.

To minimize event preparation problems in the future, TCOP Executive members have agreed to pay more attention to the future events preparation time schedules.

3. TCOP events scheduled for October 2013 - February 2014 period

The meeting participants have discussed various aspects related to the preparation of the following events, envisaged by the TCOP Activity Plan for the period October 2013- February 2014:

- Study visit to Ankara

This event has been included in the TCOP Activity Plan during the meeting of the Executive Committee on August 28th, 2013, responding Tajikistan's request to organize a study visit to the Ministry of Finance of Turkey. It was announced that several additional TCOP countries have expressed their interest to delegate participants to this event. As the number of participants exceeds 30 persons, the group will be divided in two sub-groups, one of which will be composed of IT specialists from the countries that expressed their interest to attend the study visit to Ankara.

- Launch videoconference for IT thematic group

Taking into account the TCOP members' interest in creating a thematic working group focused on the use of information technologies in treasury operations, such group will be launched within TCOP during the fall 2013. The first event organized for this group will be the launch videoconference. **Nazim Gasimzade**, Head of the IT Department of the State Treasury Agency of Azerbaijan and one of the most active TCOP members, will make a presentation on the topic of Internal and External Control of the Treasury Information Systems during the launch videoconference.

Representatives of 11 TCOP member-countries have expressed their interest to attend this event. Considering the big number of participants and to minimize logistical complexities related to the translation needs, it was decided to organize two videoconferences – one for the Russian speaking members (on October 9th, 2013), and one for the English and Bosnian speaking members (on October 16th, 2013).

Besides the thematic presentation, several organizational aspects related to the launch of the thematic group will be discussed during the videoconference.

- ***Thematic videoconference devoted to the Russian Federation experience in treasury bodies' performance evaluation***

The TCOP Activity Plan for 2013-2014 envisages a thematic videoconference devoted to the experience of Russian Federation in treasury bodies' performance evaluation. **Alexander Demidov** has kindly agreed to prepare a presentation on this topic and deliver it during the videoconference. The videoconference will be held on November 14th¹, 2013.

- ***TCOP plenary workshop in February 2014***

The meeting participants discussed the issues related to preparation of the TCOP plenary workshop scheduled for February 2014. The workshop will be devoted to the public sector accounting and reporting topic. TCOP Executive Committee members have decided to hold the workshop during the week of February 10th, 2014. The final dates of this three-day event will be confirmed later.

Nino Tchelishvili has reiterated the invitation of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia to hold the event in this country. The TCOP Executive Committee thanked Nino for this proposal and accepted to hold the workshop in Georgia (the exact location will be decided with the event hosts later).

4. TCOP role in the PEMPAL 2014 Plenary meeting organization

Elena Nikulina has updated the meeting participants with the current status of the PEMPAL 2014 Plenary meeting preparation. As agreed with the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation (the hosts of the event), this meeting will be held on May 28-30th, 2014 in Moscow. The draft Concept and agenda of the event have been already developed and submitted for comments to the members of the event Organization Committee. The Concept and preliminary agenda of the PEMPAL Plenary meeting in Moscow have been developed taking into account

¹ The final confirmation of the date is expected by September 13th

the proposals provided by the participants of the July 2013 cross COP leadership meeting, including those made by the TCOP Executive Committee members. A more detailed discussion on the TCOP contribution to the preparation of the activities envisaged by the PEMPAL 2014 Plenary meeting will be held during the next videoconference of the TCOP Executive Committee, scheduled for November 6th, 2013.

Besides the main agenda of the May 2014 PEMPAL event, the TCOP Executive Committee members have decided to organize a separate one day session on May 27th, in order to discuss further issues related to the topic of the treasury bodies' performance evaluation. This topic will be firstly addressed during the videoconference on November 14th, 2013, and a follow up discussion is intended to be organized in Moscow².

Main conclusions of the TCOP Leadership Group meeting:

- The TCOP Executive Committee members will prepare a presentation on the results of the study visit to London, UK;
- To minimize event preparation problems in the future, TCOP Executive members have agreed to pay more attention to the event preparation time schedules;
- Two iterations of the videoconference on IT use in treasury operations will be made – one for the Russian speaking members (on October 9th, 2013), and one for the English and Bosnian speaking members (the final date of the second VC will be confirmed later);
- Several organizational aspects related to the launch of the thematic group on “Use of IT in treasury operations” will be discussed during the videoconference on October 9th, 2103;
- On November 14th, 2013, a thematic videoconference devoted to the experience of Russian Federation in treasury bodies' performance evaluation will be organized;
- TCOP Executive Committee has decided to hold a plenary workshop devoted to the public sector accounting and reporting topic during the of February 10th , 2014, in Georgia;
- Detailed discussions on the TCOP contribution to the preparation of the activities envisaged by the PEMPAL 2014 Plenary meeting will be held on **November 6th, 2013**;

² During the meeting held on September 27-28th in Skopje, some additional proposals for the May 27th, 2014 meeting agenda have been announced. The TCOP Executive Committee will take later a final decision on the meeting agenda

- TCOP is preliminary planning a one day session on May 27th, 2014, in Moscow in order to discuss further issues related to the topic of treasury bodies' performance evaluation. The details of the agenda of this meeting are to be developed further;
- The next meeting of the TCOP Executive Committee will be held on **November 6th, 2013**, through videoconference;
- Ion Chicu will prepare and circulate the draft Minutes of the meeting.