

Minutes of the PEMPAL TCOP Leadership Group meeting, September 6th, 2012.

TCOP Leadership Group held a meeting on September 6th, Paris, France.

The meeting was attended by: Mimoza Peco (Ministry of Finance, Albania), Vugar Abdulayev (Ministry of Finance, Azerbaijan), Levan Todua (Ministry of Finance, Georgia), Zaifun Yernazarova (Ministry of Finance, Kazakhstan), Nazguli Duishembieva (Ministry of Finance, Kyrgyzstan), Angela Voronin (Ministry of Finance, Moldova), Alexander Demidov (Federal Treasury of Russia), Natalia Sushko (State Treasury, Ukraine), Brian Finn (International expert, SIGMA), Elena Nikulina (PEMPAL Program Team Leader, World Bank), Ion Chicu (TCOP resource person, World Bank).

Agenda items discussed:

- 1. Status of Baku TCOP workshop**
- 2. TCOP Strategy 2012-2017**
- 3. TCOP Deputy Chair election**
- 4. Miscellaneous**

1. Baku TCOP workshop preparation

The meeting started with a brief update on the current status of the Baku TCOP workshop preparation.

TCOP resource team has developed and presented to the meeting participants the workshop draft Concept and the draft preliminary survey. A number of comments and proposals to these drafts have been made by the meeting participants. In particular, the sequence of the workshop presentations has been changed, and the number and timeframe of the small groups' discussion sessions have been agreed. It was decided, that there would be two sessions of the small groups discussions in Baku, of two hours each. TCOP Leadership Group members have decided, also, to organize a meeting of the group on November 5th, afternoon. The deadline for commenting the draft workshop Concept and preliminary agenda has been set for **September 17th, 2012.**

Vugar Abdullayev has informed the meeting participants about the presentations intended to be made by the workshop hosting country – Azerbaijan. Overview presentation devoted to the

Azerbaijan PFM system reform, and a presentation on “The progress in reforming public sector accounting and reporting in Azerbaijan” are planned. Also, a live demonstration of the recently launched treasury information system is envisaged.

The meeting participants have agreed on the list of countries which will present in Baku their experience in the area of public sector accounting and reporting reforming. On the requests of the TCOP LG members, the relevant experience of the **Russian Federation and Kazakhstan** will be presented during the workshop. Also, a request to invite the representatives of the French treasury to present the experience of **France** in reforming the public sector accounting and reporting area has been launched. The TCOP resource team has sent such an invitation to the French Ministry of Finance.

As decided by the meeting participants, draft presentations for the workshop should be provided to the TCOP resource team for comments not later than **October, 1st, 2012**.

Elena Nukulina has presented to the meeting participants the draft survey which will be conducted among TCOP member countries before the beginning of the workshop. This draft has been developed taking into account the TCOP leaders’ proposals. Some comments and changes to the draft survey have been made by the meeting participants. It was agreed that by **September 17th, 2012** all TCOP LG members would provide their comments to the draft survey.

The TCOP LG members have decided to hold a videoconference devoted to the Baku workshop preparation on **October, 4th, 2012**. It was agreed, also, that the LG members will provide by that time their proposals for issues to be discussed during the small group discussion sessions in Baku. In order to identify the TCOP members’ priorities for issues to be discussed during the small group discussions, an express voting survey will be conducted before the workshop.

2. TCOP Strategy 2012-2017

According to the decision of the TCOP LG taken in Moscow, the resource team has revised and presented to the meeting participants the draft structure of the TCOP Strategy for 2012-2017.

On the proposal of **Alexander Demidov**, the meeting participants have revisited the rationale for development of a separate strategic document for the TCOP. Taking into account the changes made in the PEMPAL program Strategy for 2012-2017, addressing the specific COPs aspects (including those suggested by the Paris PEMPAL cross-meeting participants), the TCOP LG members have agreed to Alexander Demidov’s proposal to drop the idea of developing a separate TCOP Strategy document.

At the same time, the meeting participants have decided to revisit the existing TCOP Activity Plan for 2012-2014. It was agreed that the proposals on the areas to be revised in the Activity Plan would be submitted by the TCOP LG members before the videoconference planned for

October 4th, 2012. Concrete proposals for amending the existing Activity Plan will be discussed in Baku.

3. TCOP Deputy Chair election

Angela Voronin – the Chair of TCOP, has raised the issue of the deputy TCOP Chairs election. The TCOP LG members has agreed on her proposal to have two deputies.

Zaifun Yernazarova and **Vugar Abdullayev** have been proposed to be elected as TCOP Chair deputies. Their candidatures have been unanimously supported by the TCOP Leadership Group members.

4. Miscellaneous

In response to the request of the **Minister of Finance of Albania**, the meeting participants have agreed to accept **Mimoza Peco** – the Head of treasury operational department of Albania, as a member of the TCOP Leadership Group, to replace Anila Cili, the country's former representative in the group.

During the discussions on this issue, the meeting participants have appreciated the high level of responsibility, which Mimoza Peco possesses in conformity with her position in the State Treasury of Albania, as well as her willingness to take active part in TCOP events. Taking into account these arguments, the TCOP leaders have unanimously accepted the proposal to include Mimoza Peco in the TCOP Leadership Group.

The meeting participants have discussed, also, the request of the management of the **Kyrgyz MoF**, to include an additional representative of this country in the TCOP Leadership Group. **Nazguli Duishembieva** has informed the meeting participants about the irrelevance of this proposal and the MOF intention to revoke the letter.

Natalia Sushko has informed the meeting participants about the State Treasury of Ukraine proposal to hold the TCOP workshop, planned for the first half of 2013, in Kiev, Ukraine – during the last decade of the **April 2013**. The TCOP leaders have accepted this proposal. The issues related to the preparation of this workshop, including the final topics of the event, will be discussed during the TCOP LG meeting in Baku.

Main conclusions of the TCOP Leadership Group meeting:

- Along with the thematic presentations of the hosting country, Azerbaijan, the experience of the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan in the area of the public sector accounting and reporting reforms will be presented during the TCOP workshop in Baku. Also, subject to the positive response of the French Ministry of Finance, the experience of France in the same area will be presented during the workshop. Draft presentations will be provided for comments by October 1st, 2012.
- Deadline for commenting the draft workshop Concept and preliminary agenda has been set by TCOP LG members for **September 17th, 2012**. The same deadline has been established for commenting the draft workshop preparatory survey.
- It was decided to drop the idea of developing a separate TCOP Strategy for 2012-2017. The meeting participants have decided to revisit the existing TCOP Activity Plan for 2012-2014. Concrete proposals for amending the existing Activity Plan will be discussed in Baku.
- The TCOP LG members have decided to hold a videoconference devoted to the Baku workshop preparation on **October, 4th, 2012**. It was agreed also that the LG members would provide by that time their proposals for issues to be discussed during the small group discussion sessions in Baku.
- Zaifun Yernazarova and Vugar Abdullayev have been elected as deputies Chair of the PEMPAL TCOP.
- Mimoza Peco has been accepted as a member of the TCOP Leadership Group.
- During the last decade of April 2013, TCOP workshop will be held in Kiev, Ukraine. Issues related to the preparation of this workshop, including confirmation of the topics for the event, will be discussed during the TCOP LG meeting in Baku.
- Ion Chicu will prepare and circulate the draft Minutes of the meeting, by September 14th, 2012.