PEMPAL BCOP Participation in the Meeting of
the OECD Senior Budget Officials’ Network on Performance and Results

November 24, 2020, Videoconference

1. On November 24, 2020, a delegation of the PEMPAL Budget Community of Practice (BCOP) Program and Performance Budgeting Working Group (PPBWG) attended the annual meeting of the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Senior Budget Officials’ Network on Performance and Results. Eight BCOP members from three PPBWG countries (Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine) participated in the meeting. BCOP Resource Team also attended the meeting, including Iryna Shcherbyna, Senior Public Sector Specialist, World Bank (BCOP Coordinator) and Naida Carsimamovic Vukotic, Consultant (BCOP Resource Team member).

2. OECD’s Network on Performance and Results meets on an annual basis. It aims at improving the effectiveness and efficiency of resource allocation and management in the public sector by assisting OECD member countries to design and implement performance- and results-based budgeting and management reforms. This Network provides an important platform for the PPBWG in its effort to help PEMPAL countries (i) share and benchmark their progress in program and performance budgeting (PPB) with the OECD countries and (ii) learn and discuss the newest trends in the area.

3. BCOP’s participation in this meeting reflects the continued fruitful cooperation with the OECD which represents an important knowledge and learning resource on PPB. More specifically, it allowed to learn about the current state and plans of OECD countries’ reforms on PPB and spending reviews. The meeting’s sessions were devoted to (i) performance and results in the context of the COVID 19-related crisis, and (ii) linking performance budgeting with the strategic priorities of government.

4. The first session on performance and results and the COVID 19-related crisis reflected on how: (i) performance and results information had supported decisions taken during the pandemic emergency phase, and (ii) performance budgeting and spending review can best play a role during the recovery phase. The OECD Secretariat presented the results of a survey it conducted on Performance and Results in the COVID 19-related context. Ireland and France also presented their own experiences and a follow-up discussion between the other participants highlighted their main challenges as well as opportunities going forward.

5. The second session examined the ways to link performance budgeting with strategic priorities of government. While one main aspect of performance budgeting is aimed at aligning expenditures with strategic planning, difficulties to meet this objective in practice have been pointed out. Following presentations delivered by the OECD Secretariat, Chile and the United Kingdom the participants exchanged and discussed their experiences both in terms of identifying the challenges encountered and promising practices of successful linkage of performance budgeting and national strategic priorities.

6. Meeting agenda and materials can be found on the OECD website.