



PRESS RELEASE

OECD and Eurasia countries launch regional roundtable to monitor progress in improving competitiveness

Warsaw, Poland 28/06/2013 – Ministers and high-level representatives from 13 Eurasia countries today launched the region’s first initiative to monitor progress in implementing competitiveness reforms.

“The Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable will provide countries of our region with a unique forum to share know-how and track progress on improving the investment environment,” said Yerbol Orynbayev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan and regional co-Chair of the OECD Central Asia Initiative.

The Roundtable was endorsed by Ministers in a declaration capping off a two-day Ministerial Conference “Implementing Policies for Competitiveness in the Eurasia Region”, co-hosted by the government of Poland and the OECD.

“Peer learning is the driving force that makes the OECD method of peer review effective in both member and non-member countries,” said Richard Boucher, Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD. “We look forward to continuing work with our partners in Eurasia to ensure that policy reforms have a real impact on investment, competitiveness and ultimately, people’s lives.”

The meeting also released [three Policy Handbooks](#) for private sector reform in the region. The reports provide step-by-step guidance for policy makers to implement reforms in vocational education and training, business linkage programmes and credit guarantee schemes.

The conference was opened by a Business Forum hosted by the Ministry of Economy on June 27 that brought together senior Eurasian officials and Polish business representatives to discuss investment opportunities in the region.

Proceedings of the conference are available at <http://oe.cd/eurasia2013> and on Twitter at @OECD_psd #eurasia2013.

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The Eurasia Competitiveness Programme of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was launched in 2008 to help improve the region’s business climate and achieve sustainable economic growth and employment through national and regional initiatives, with the support of OECD investment instruments and mechanisms. It includes seven countries from Central Asia (Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) and six countries from Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine). www.oecd.org/daf/psd/eurasia

