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NWA-BPC TRANSITION MEETING RECORD

Transition Meeting—Toward the Board of Participating Countries May 7-8, 1997, Budapest, Hungary

Participants

Shelagh Whittleston, Australia
Friedrich Plank, Austria
Luc Van de Poele, Belgium (FL)
Aletta Grisay, Belgium (FR)
C. Jean Britton, Canada
Jana Straková, Czech Republic
Niels Plischewski, Denmark
Birgitte Bovin, Denmark
Kimmo Leimu, Finland
Ritva Jakku-Sihvonen, Finland
Jaqueline Levasseur, France
Gerard Bonnet, France
Dieter Schwedt, Germany
Heinz Westkamp, Germany
Judit Kádár-Fülöp, Hungary
Chiara Croce, Italy
H.J. Hwang, Korea
Masashi Akiba, Japan
Jean-Paul Reeff, Luxembourg
Edgar Galindo, Mexico
Arnold Spee, Netherlands
Marit Granheim, Norway
Jerzy Wisniewski, Poland
Gertrudes Amaro, Portugal
Guillermo Gil, Spain
Ozan Ginar, Turkey
Birgitta Fredander, Sweden
Robert Wood, United Kingdom
Eugene Owen, United States
Jay Moskowitz, United States
Tom Alexander, OECD
Andreas Schleicher, OECD

Introduction

The special transition meeting was called to order by Tom Alexander. It was proposed and affirmed that Hungary would chair the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to 1) work out the operational details for the Board of Participating Countries; 2) discuss and approve the Terms of Reference for processing by the OECD legal affairs office; 3) discuss and approve a formula

for sharing costs; and 4) discuss and approve evaluation point criteria for the Terms of Reference.

Mr. Alexander reviewed the deliberations and decisions of the Education Committee and CERI Governing Board. These are summarized in his letter to Network members dated April 30, 1997. The two bodies endorsed the Data Strategy and requested that the Secretariat and Network A move forward on implementing the strategy.

Board of Participating Countries Operating Rules

The OECD Secretariat circulated a draft set of BPC rules for discussion. Discussions followed on the content and wording of each rule. The final set of rules are attached as an annex to the minutes.

Review of Terms of Reference

Jay Moskowitz reviewed the changes made in the draft Terms of Reference since the meeting in Sintra. In addition to these changes, the Terms of Reference will be revised to include the recommendations of the APOI group regarding the student and school questionnaires, the evaluation points (see below), and the need for the contractor to propose technical standards. Eugene Owen needs to clarify the availability of the TIMSS items for use in the minor domains. After revisions, the Terms of Reference will be forwarded by the Secretariat to the OECD legal affairs office for processing. The release date is scheduled for mid-September.

Cost Sharing

The Secretariat proposed a three-step formula for sharing the international costs of implementing the Data Strategy. Step One—each participating country will pay a minimum of UD\$40,000 per year. Step Two, participating countries will share the remaining costs based on the OECD contribution scheme. Step Three, countries implementing the strategy without participating in development would pay 10 percent of the total cost.

Each country participating in the meeting was canvassed regarding the proposed formula. Everyone agreed to the formula. However, several countries expressed concern over the overall cost and the ability of small, less-affluent countries to pay the minimum contribution. It was agreed that bilateral talks could be held between the Secretariat and specific countries to resolve any problems.

Evaluation Points

The following point criteria was approved by the countries attending the transition meeting:

Technical Approach		35 Points
Introduction	5 Points	
General Approach	10 Points	

Statement of Work 20 Points

Personnel 45 Points

Project Director 20 Points

Other Staff 25 Points

Management Plan and Budgeting Process 10 Points

Project organization 5 Points

Subcontractor Mgt. 5 Points

Previous Experience 10 Points

International Exp. 5 Points

Survey Exp. 5 Points