



SIGMA

Support for Improvement in Governance and Management

A joint initiative of the OECD and the European
Union, principally financed by the EU

SEMINAR ON ORGANISATION OF THE LEGAL SERVICES OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: THE EXPERIENCE OF SOME EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES

Tbilisi, 25-26 September 2009

Programme

OBJECTIVE

Exchange experience of EU Member States with the Georgian Ministry of Finance on assigning responsibilities to legal departments at Ministries of Finance, their organisational structures, and their working procedures

ORGANISERS

- Legal Department of the Ministry of Finance, Georgia
- SIGMA (www.sigmaweb.org)

PROGRAMME

Friday, 25 September 2009

13:00-13:15	Welcome and opening speech by the Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr. I. Gvaladze.
13:15-13:30	Mr. Francois Massoulie, Counsellor at the Political Section of the EC Delegation to Georgia
13:30-13:35	Introduction to SIGMA, A joint initiative of the OECD and the European Union, principally financed by the EU Mr. Nicolas Dubois, Principal administrator, SIGMA/OECD
13:35-14:00	Situation of the Georgian Legal Department: main functioning and organisation problems and reform prospects Mrs. Ekaterina Egutia, Head of the Legal Department, Ministry of Finance

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14:00-14:30	<p>The <i>Finanzprokuratur</i> of Austria</p> <p>1. The <i>Finanzprokuratur</i>, lawyers and legal advisors to the Republic of Austria: role, competences, organisation and frameworks. Advantages and disadvantages of a state-owned law firm.</p> <p>Dr. Michaela Faller, Lawyer in the Presidium of the <i>Finanzprokuratur</i> of the Republic of Austria</p>
14:30-15:00	<p>The <i>Finanzprokuratur</i> of Austria</p> <p>2. State Liability: legal basis, pre-conditions, proceedings</p> <p>Dr. Wolfgang Peschorn, President of the <i>Finanzprokuratur</i> and First Lawyer of the Republic of Austria</p>
15:00-15:30	Questions
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-16:30	<p>The Legal Department of the Ministry of Finance of Estonia</p> <p>Mrs. Aet Sallaste, Head of Legal Department, Ministry of Finance, Estonia</p>
16:30-17:00	Questions
17:00-17:30	<p>Revenue Law and Administration in Ireland</p> <p>Mr. Edward Donelan, Principal Administrator, SIGMA/OECD</p>
17:30-18:00	Questions

Saturday, 26 September 2009

09:30-10:00	The Scrutiny of Legislative Drafts and the Organization of Administrative Procedures for Complaints raised by Taxpayers in Germany Ms. Karin Franz, Deputy Head of the Tax Office in Haldensleben / Saxony-Anhalt, Germany
10:00-10:30	Questions
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-11:30	Responsibilities and Organization of the Legal Services of the State Chancellery of the Republic of Latvia Legal Services of the State Revenue Service of the Republic of Latvia Ms. Solveiga Līce, Deputy Head of Legal Department, State Chancellery of the Republic of Latvia
11:30-12:30	Questions
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14.30	Tax administration in Portugal: How we deal with legal disputes Ms. Ana Isabel Valente, Adviser at the Directorate General for Taxation, Portugal
14.30-15:00	Questions
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:00	Improving Revenue Law through a Policy for Better Regulation Mr. Edward Donelan, Principal Administrator, SIGMA/OECD
16:00-16:30	Questions
16:30-17:00	Wrap up and concluding remarks Mrs. Ekaterina Egutia, Head of the Legal Department, Ministry of Finance.

Biographical notes of speakers

Edward Donelan

Mr. Edward Donelan is a principal administrator and senior advisor with SIGMA in the areas of regulatory reform and policy making. A barrister by profession, he has spent over 25 years working in the public service in Ireland drafting legislation including the Capital Gains Tax and Stamp Duty Consolidation Legislation. Before his appointment to SIGMA he was the Director of the Statute Law Revision Unit, Office of Attorney General, Dublin, Ireland and was responsible for drawing up and implementing a policy to make Irish statute law more coherent and accessible. He has participated in national and international working groups (EU/OECD) on better regulation issues and worked with the OECD on the preparation of Regulatory Reform in Ireland (OECD, 2001). He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Dublin where he taught a postgraduate course on regulatory matters.

Michaela FALLER

Dr. Michaela Faller is a lawyer in the Presidium of the Finanzprokurator of the Republic of Austria with particular responsibility for human resources and employment law as well as for cross-disciplinary complex legal problems. Previously she worked in the Department for Insolvency Law, Company and Commercial Law, Tax Law. Dr. Faller holds a doctorate in law from the University of Vienna and a certificate in Human Resource Management and Recruitment.

Karin FRANZ

Ms. Karin Franz is a lawyer and the Deputy Head of the Tax Office in Haldensleben / Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. Previously she worked as a counsel in the Legal Department of the international bank "SEB AG" and as a lawyer with the law firm "Clifford Chance". Ms. Franz holds a degree in law from the University of Giessen.

Solviega LĪCE

Mrs. Solveiga Līce, LL.M, is Deputy Director of Legal Department of State Chancellery of the Republic of Latvia since 2003. Mrs. Līce has served for the Latvian state public administration for ten years having joined the team of the State Chancellery in 1998. In her capacity as the Deputy Director of the Legal Department, her main areas of responsibility are the development and updating of Government rules of procedure, regulation of Government and public administration institutions, organization of inter-ministerial cooperation of legal services, preparing of legal drafting methodology. She has been a key drafter or participating expert for numerous binding regulatory enactments, including Rules of Procedure of the Cabinet of Ministers (adopted in 2009), Law on Structure of the Cabinet of Ministers (adopted in 2008), Cabinet Regulation on Drafting of Normative Acts (Legal Drafting Methods) (adopted in 2009).

Wolfgang PESCHORN

Dr. Wolfgang Peschorn is President of the Finanzprokurator and the First Lawyer of the Republic of Austria. Previously he worked as the Deputy Head of the Department for Insolvency Law. Dr. Peschorn holds a doctorate in law from the University of Vienna. At the moment he is primarily concerned with the financial crisis and its impact on the Austrian economy as well as the Austrian banking system.

Aet SALLASTE

Ms. Aet Sallaste is the head of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Finance, Estonia. Previously she worked as a senior expert in the Division of State Claims of the Legal Department. Ms. Sallaste holds a degree in law from the Faculty of Law, University of Tartu, Estonia.

Ana Isabel VALENTE

Ms. Ana Isabel Valente is a senior technician of superior level in the General Directorate of Taxation. She holds a law degree from the Catholic University of Lisbon and a post-graduate degree in Advance Taxation from the same University. She works as counsellor in the Department of Tax Litigations Services, mainly in matters concerning the coordination of the Representation of the Public Treasury in Court. She is also a representative of the Public Treasury in the Administrative Central Court South when necessary. Previously, Ms. Valente worked in the Department of Human Resources Management Services, as law adviser.