



## **SIGMA**

### **Support for Improvement in Governance and Management**

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

## **ANNOTATED AGENDA SEMINAR ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION ANKARA 1-2 February 2005**

### **ORGANISERS**

- Prime Ministry
- SIGMA (a joint initiative of the European Union and the OCDE)

### **OBJECTIVES**

To stimulate the debate on the needs and goals for reforming the administration, raise awareness on the principles governing the European Administrative Space and the implications for the Administration of EU membership.

### **AUDIENCE**

Selected group of up to 50 policy-makers and high civil servants of the Turkish State.

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### **DAY I**

**8'30 Registration of participants**

**9'00-9'10 Opening of the Seminar by the Chairman (or Chairwoman)\_\_\_\_\_**

**9'10-9'30 Welcoming Speech by Pr. Ömer Dinçer, Undersecretary of the Prime Ministry, and by the EU Ambassador to Turkey, His Excellency Hansjörg Kretschmer**

### **Block I: EFFECTS OF EU MEMBERSHIP UPON NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS**

**9'30- 10'30**

**Topic 1: The European Administrative Space**

**Mr. Francisco Cardona**, Principal Administrator SIGMA, Paris

*The public administration is a domestic affair for EU Member States. However, national public administrations have to apply the *acquis communautaire* in a homogeneous way in order to ensure that European citizens are able to enjoy the rights allotted to them by the EU Treaties irrespective of the country they live in. National administrations apply European legislation as if it was domestic legislation. Is there an interest of the remaining Member States to ensure that each national administration has comparable quality and professionalism?*

**10'30-11'00: Discussion/ Questions and answers**

**11'00-11'30 Coffee Break**

**11'30-12'30**

**Topic 2: Rethinking the Turkish Administration for EU Membership**

**Dr. Kivanç Ulusoy**, former Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy.

*Public administration organisation has epitomised the notion of sovereignty emerged from the Westphalian construct of the nation-state. The European Union means that States voluntarily share important elements of sovereignty. How may this affect a new Member State? Which would be the implications of EU Membership for the Turkish State and Public Administration?*

**12'30-13'00: Discussion/Questions/answers**

**13'00-14'30 Lunch Break**

**14'30- 15'30**

**Topic 3: Efficiency and Legality in the Administration: What is the Priority?**

**Mr. Michael Carpenter**, Treasury Solicitor's Department, Cabinet Office, currently seconded to Parliament, House of Commons, as a Legal Adviser, UK.

*EU Member States are obliged to situate the law, due procedure and respect of citizens' rights at the core of the government while at the same time they need to increase the economy, efficiency and rapidity in handling public affairs. What comes first, legality or efficiency? Which kind of efficiency is the one that should be expected from the public administration?*

**15'30-16'00: Discussion/ Questions and answers**

**16'00-16'30 Coffee Break**

**16'30-17'30**

**Topic 4: Government Evolving: Ensuring Accountability of Ministries and Agencies**

**Mr. Prof. Gerhard Banner**, Honorary professor of the German Civil Service College at Speyer, Germany; Director of Governance International.

*The organisational structures of national administrations reflect national traditions of each EU Member State and they have autonomy to setting up home-grown institutional models. However, in order to ensure compatibility and smooth interaction with their citizens and also with partner administrations of the rest of Member States, certain principles have to be respected so as to ensure that the organisation is understandable (transparent) by the citizens, and the administrative actions are open to be seen from outside the administration. Without openness and transparency no accountability is possible. Which are the mechanism and institutions used by EU Member States to ensure transparency and accountability in their public administrations? How to design workable accountability lines within the administration, with external administrative and non-administrative institutions, and with citizens?*

**17'30-18'00: Discussion/Questions and answers**

**18'00 End of Day I**

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**DAY II**

**9'00-10'00**

**Topic 5: Protecting the Legality: The Administration and the Judiciary in EU Countries**

**Mr. Jean-Marie Woehrling**, Former administrative judge, Strasbourg, France.

*All EU Member States, and Turkey as well, have a tradition of judicial review of administrative actions and decisions. Which are the main models for judicial review in EU Member States? How do the executive and the judicial powers interact? How is it ensured the separation of powers while at the same time ensuring the administration through law principle enshrined by the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice? How judicial review is facilitated by clear procedures for administrative decision-making?*

**10'00-10'30: Discussions/Questions and answers**

**10'30-11 Coffee Break**

**Block II: DISTRIBUTING PUBLIC GOVERNANCE**

**11'00-12'00**

**Topic 6: Administration and Territory in Europe: Public Services and Distribution of Competencies**

**Dr. Enric Argullol**, Administrative Law Department, Pompeu Fabra University. Barcelona, Spain

*One of the goals of the EU is to promote economic development by ensuring equilibrate growth across the EU territory. Although the territorial distribution of political and administrative powers is intimately linked to the history of each Member State, which ideas and evidence should be considered when it comes to undertake a decentralisation of public decision-making or deconcentration of public services? Which are the recent experiences in Europe in allotting administrative competences across levels of government? What the role of the central State is becoming between the supranational institutions of the EU and the increasing devolution of powers to sub-national governments? How best to ensure social and national cohesion in this newly emerging situation? Is there any specific decentralisation requirement linked to EU membership?*

**12'00-12'30: Discussions/Questions and answers**

**12'30-14'00 Lunch Break**

**14'00-15'00**

**Topic 7: A Case Study: Territorial Reforms in Poland in the 1990s: Achievements and Failures from a Today's Perspective**

Dr. **Michal Kulesza**, Warsaw University, Baker & McKenzie Warsaw, former Minister for the Reform, Poland

*The Polish public administration reform process was crowned in 1998-99 by introducing a rather clear distribution of public authority functions among local self-governments, regional self-governments and the central State government, including certain sectoral reforms such as the police, education, social welfare, public roads' management, etc. How this reform process was managed? How the results of the reform should be evaluated? Which lessons can be learned from this Polish experience?*

**15'00-15'30: Discussions/Questions and answers**

**15'30-16'00 Coffee Break**

**16'00-17'00**

**Topic 8: A Case Study: Decentralisation / Deconcentration in France since the 1980s**

M. **Paul Bernard**, Honorary Prefect of the French Republic, Paris

*France is usually regarded as the European archetype of a centralised State. However, the reality of today's France is quite different. A significant number of intermediate public bodies, administrative authorities, regional and local governments have developed and increased their powers, administrative competencies and public expenditures over recent decades. This has occurred not without engaging public and political debates, which are still ongoing. Why did France undertake a decentralisation / deconcentration process? Which lessons can be learned from the French experience on decentralisation and deconcentration?*

**17'00-17'30: Discussions/Questions and answers**

**17'30: Wrap up of the Seminar by a SIGMA representative**

**17'45: Closing remarks by the Chairman/Chairwoman**