



Rules of Procedure and Working Methods

Expert Group Public Administration and Governance

DG REFORM

Technical meeting 30.3.2022

Rules of Procedure 1/5

- Draft circulated to the Members of the Expert Group in EN, FR and DE
- Based on the standard template of the Secretariat General of the EC and the Decision establishing the Expert Group (tasks, membership, observers etc)
- We received few comments in the relevant question of the survey.
- Clarification on role of members, observers, experts and rules on transparency

Rules of Procedure 2/5

- **Members:** representatives of MS authorities responsible for horizontal issues, policy, coordination or modernisation in the area of PA
 - ✓ Nominated by MS- MS responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise;
 - ✓ Permanent status;
 - ✓ Participate in discussions, voting, formulation of recommendation or advice of the expert group/sub-groups.

Rules of Procedure 3/4

- **Observers:** Association for local and regional administration, Union agencies/bodies, international organisations, research institutes
 - ✓ **Permanent status**, not mandatory to be invited to all meetings (discretion to the Chair - expertise needed)
 - ✓ Participate in discussions, provide expertise, but **no voting rights**, nor formulation of recommendations/advice.
 - ✓ The European Parliament' representatives may request to be invited, **no permanent status** granted
 - ✓ Special focus on associations of regional and local authorities – **Rationale:** reforms take place at central level, but regional and local administrations seem to lag behind, as they have limited access to exchange of good practices.
- **Invited experts:** individuals, independent experts or representatives of stakeholders or public entities with special knowledge on a topic on a meeting's agenda.
 - ✓ Invited to meetings on an **ad hoc basis** to make presentation;
 - ✓ No permanent status, not registered in the Register of the Experts Group

Rules of Procedure 4/5

- **Transparency**

- ✓ The Expert Group is registered in the Register for Experts Groups of the European Commission:
<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/expert-groups/consult?lang=en&groupID=3831>
- ✓ Publication in a dedicated webpage: Rules of Procedure, agenda, minutes (non-verbatim), submissions of MS, name of MS authority, names of observer's representatives.

Rules of Procedure 5/5- Question

- How can we maximize the benefit from observers' participation?
 - ✓ Associations for local and regional administration
 - ✓ Union agencies/bodies
 - ✓ international organisations
 - ✓ research institutes

Working methods of the Expert Group 1/2

- Suggestions for **nature** of meetings:
 - ✓ one high-level/strategic/political meeting at the beginning of the year **in principle** for stocktaking and decision for the priorities of the year
 - ✓ three technical meetings based on the work programme, while ensuring flexibility
 - ✓ meetings in-person could be hosted by MS (participation cost to be covered by EC, venue by MS)
- **Interpretation** during high-level/strategic meetings only, striking the right balance between efficiency vs. multi-linguism during technical meetings, provision of breakout sessions?
- **Shared space** for exchanging documents, direct communication, repository (e.g. Teams)?

Working methods of the Expert Group 2/2

- Potential establishment of sub-groups:
 - ✓ topic of digitalization of public administration/ use of new technologies, management of the digital transformation;
 - ✓ topic on science for policy-making and evidence-informed policy-making;
 - ✓ to be considered at a later stage (potential of joint meetings with existing sub-groups as per point 2(2) of the RoP).

THANK YOU

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