



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

LEGAL DIRECTORATE

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Note from the OECD Legal Affairs Directorate

1. This note provides guidelines for all consultations between the OECD Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions (“Working Group”), including its Secretariat, and external stakeholders on matters regarding implementation of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (“Anti-Bribery Convention”) and related instruments.
2. Consultations between the Working Group and external stakeholders shall be by invitation only, and for the purpose of such consultations, ‘external stakeholders’ may include representatives from civil society, the private sector and, where appropriate, public officials (including prosecutors) from countries that are not Parties to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.
3. Rule 5 of the OECD Rules of Procedures provides that ‘Unless Council agrees otherwise, meetings of bodies of the Organisation shall be held in private’.
4. While consultations between the Working Group and external stakeholders are not meetings of an OECD ‘body,’ they are organised by the OECD and take place on OECD premises.
5. Hence, in line with the spirit of Rule 5, the discussions of the consultations shall remain confidential and shall follow the Chatham House Rule, which provide that ‘When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.’ This means that, unless otherwise agreed by all the participants to the consultation, the information provided during the meeting shall not be attributable to any specific speaker.
6. All participants to the consultations between the Working Group and external stakeholders are expected to act in accordance with this guidelines note.