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Fourth Annual Global Network of Parliamentary Budget Officers (GN-PBO) Assembly

The GN-PBO is a global practitioner network consisting of officers from agencies tasked with providing non-partisan budget and public finance analysis to parliaments.

AGENDA

Date: June 7-10, 2016

Venue: Room MC C1- 100, 1818 H St., NW
Washington, D.C., 20433

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES:

The Assembly is a knowledge exchange activity that aims to: (a) share experience with respect to the design, mandate and functions of Parliamentary Budget Offices (PBOs); (b) enhance knowledge around different types of analysis performed by PBOs; and (c) undertake network business and decision making.

E-PBO PORTAL

The e-PBO Portal is a virtual nexus for learning, information sharing and peer support within the practitioner community. Developed for and maintained by the GN-PBO, the ePBO Portal is a tool for community building.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

Information concerning administrative arrangements will be provided in a separate note. Administrative inquiries should be directed to Ermal Vila (evila@worldbank.org).

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DAY ONE: TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016			
SESSION	TIME	TITLE	CONTRIBUTORS
	8:30am	Meet in Hotel Lobby to walk over to Conference venue	
Registration	8:45-9:15am		
1	9:30 - 9:45 am	Introduction And Welcome Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to the meeting ▪ Delegates' Introductions ▪ Expectation Setting ▪ Expected Learning Outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mitchell O'Brien, Senior Governance Specialist, The World Bank ▪ Kevin Page, University of Ottawa (uOttawa), Canada
2	10:00-11:00 am	Update from some of the GN-PBO Stewards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking stock of the GN-PBO Community of Practice ▪ Assessing progress on last year's goals ▪ e-PBO portal update: format, content, accessibility, information repository, networking potential ▪ Learning from peer experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sruti Bandyopadhyay ▪ Benjamin Gerald Holzman ▪ Paulina Biernacka (via Webex)
	11:00 - 11:15 am	Mid-Morning Break Coffee, tea and refreshments	

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3	11:15- 12: 00 Pm	<p>World Café: Delegates will take part in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ice Breaking Exercise</i> to get know your fellow GNPBO community members ▪ <i>Goal Setting Exercise</i> to identify personal learning outcomes for the conference ▪ <i>Community Building Discussion</i> on how to incentivize sharing of experiences, challenges, best practices and information through the GN-PBO 	Facilitator: Miriam Bensky, The World Bank
4	12:00 Pm- 12: 45 pm	<p>Leadership Group Preparation: During the group leadership reflections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Community Keepers</i> (the guardians of voices and practice) will discuss the composition of the community and their respective roles ▪ <i>Agenda Activists</i> (the stewards of emerging themes) will steward the learning content and themes for the COP ▪ <i>Social Reporters</i> (the keepers of memory) will discuss and keep records of the insights and meeting outputs that needs be captured and recorded 	Facilitator: Miriam Bensky, The World Bank
	12:45 - 1:45pm	Family Photo & Lunch	
5	1:45-3:00 pm	<p>Parliamentary Budget Offices – Foundations and Challenges</p> <p>What are the principle foundations and challenges of a PBO? Comparing the experiences of Uganda, Kenya, Scotland and the Phillippines, we will explore and discuss the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the political and institutional constraints a new office may face (e.g. founding legislation, inhospitable political environment, etc.)? How can they be managed through the GN-PBO network? 	<p>Moderator: Kevin Page, Canada’s founding Parliamentary Budget Officer</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phyllis Makau, Director Parliamentary Budget Office, Kenya ▪ Moses Bisase Tusubira, Asst. Director, Parliamentary Budget Office, Uganda ▪ Romulo Emmanuel Miral , Director General, Congressional Policy And Budget Research Department

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do you build your organization? How did you recruit staff and train your teams? How did you define your office’s key business lines (e.g. legislative requirements, parliamentary requests, etc.)? ▪ What outputs are you accountable for producing? What were your first reports? How were they received? What did you learn from those experiences? Have you improved or changed your output reporting? ▪ How can a network like GNPBO help in strengthening your organization? (e.g. peer review of outputs, technical assistance)? <p>Note: Kevin Page will provide opening remarks and will engage the panelists in an interview-style discussion (there will be no PowerPoint). An audience question and answer period will follow.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simon Wakefield, Head Of Financial Scrutiny Unit, Scottish Parliament Information Centre
	3:00-3:45	<p>Working Group : Budget Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working Group Members will share their proposed framework. ▪ The members will be divided into three groups to deliberate on the draft framework and provide feedback to the Working Group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working Group Members
	3:45-4:00 pm	<p>Afternoon Break Coffee, tea and refreshments</p>	

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6	4:00-5:00 pm	<p>Roundtable on Recent Parliamentary Budgeting Developments</p> <p>With special focus on new members of the GN-PBO, this panel is designed to share practices and developments in the processes, tools and resources parliaments use to execute their fiscal scrutiny function.</p> <p>The following questions will guide our discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Are there reforms or proposed reforms that may improve the Parliamentary scrutiny processes and enhance transparency and accountability? If yes, what are they? ▪ What tools does the parliament have to scrutinize government spending (e.g. PBO reports, party research service, library of parliament etc.)? ▪ Have parliamentarians expressed specific concerns regarding their fiscal scrutiny abilities? ▪ What are some areas of practice that the GN-PBO should explore to support members' parliaments and parliamentarians? 	<p>Moderator: Mitch O'Brien, The World Bank</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hardi Nyagsi Mohammed, Director Research/Budget, Ghana ▪ Cheryl Gibson, Assistant Clerk, Parliamentary Procedures And Administration, Houses Of Parliament, Jamaica ▪ Aleksandra Brankovic, Senior Researcher, Parliamentary Budget Office, Serbia ▪ Jacob Liana Keiba, Clerk of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Trinidad & Tobago
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7	5:00 - 5:45pm	<i>Leadership Group Reflections</i> Reflect on the day's session through the lens of your Leadership Group and prepare brief feedback for tomorrow: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Community Keepers</i> will discuss the composition of the community and their respective roles▪ <i>Agenda Activists</i> will steward the learning content and themes for the conference▪ <i>Social Reporters</i> will discuss and keep records of the insights and meeting outputs that need to be captured and recorded	
End of Day 1			

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DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016			
SESSION	TIME	TITLE	CONTRIBUTORS
8	9:00-9:30am	<p>Social Reporters Report Back Report on previous day’s reflections and community activities from Day 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social Reporters Leadership Group
9	9:30-10:30 am	<p>Performance Budgeting Using Canada and other case studies, this session will address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is performance budgeting? How are indicators and evaluation used to assess performance and outcomes? ▪ Does a PBO have a role in performance budgeting? ▪ Can PBOs leverage performance budgeting? ▪ How can performance budgeting be implemented? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ivor Beazley, The World Bank ▪ Kevin Page , University of Ottawa
	10:30-10:45am	Mid-Morning Break , Coffee, tea and refreshments	
10	10:45-11:45	<p>Gender Mainstreaming in Money Committees There is a lack of women parliamentarians on the so-called parliamentary “money committees” i.e. the Budget Committee, Finance Committee, Estimates Committee and PAC, particularly when compared with sectoral committees such as health and education, where a more equitable gender balance tends to be found.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why is the representation of women on ‘money committees’ relevant? ▪ What are potential approaches a parliament may take to foster the representation of women on ‘money committees’? ▪ Does a PBO have a role in promoting equitable gender representation? ▪ What are some practices a PBO can adopt to promote equitable gender representation within their office? 	<p>Opening Remarks: Satu Santala, Executive Director, The World Bank</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DR Delegation ▪ Nigerian Delegation

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11	11:45-12:30	<p>Debt Sustainability Analysis</p> <p>Building on a webinar available at e-PBO.org (click here to access), this session will review a standard framework for debt sustainability analysis in a developing country context. The IMF's and World Bank's approach to debt sustainability analysis and policy advice regarding public finances and balance-of-payments for developing countries will also be reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is debt sustainability analysis? ▪ What are the internal and external factors that should be considered in the analysis? ▪ How can a PBO undertake debt sustainability analysis? ▪ How can the results of debt sustainability analysis be disseminated to inform parliament and parliamentarians? ▪ Are there best-practice jurisdictions that can be referenced as models? <p>Note: Participants are strongly encouraged to go through the webinar recording before the session.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elliot Riordan, Senior Economist, World Bank
	12:30-1:30 pm	Lunch	
12	1:30-2:15 PM	<p>Tax Gap Analysis</p> <p>Parliamentary Budget Offices often need time to estimate the overall extent of tax lost through noncompliance or 'the tax gap' i.e. the total amount lost compared to an ideal baseline in which all taxes are collected as the Parliament intended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the tools and methodologies that a PBO can use for tax gap analysis? ▪ How have other jurisdictions performed this analysis? ▪ How can a PBO effectively communicate the results to Parliament? <p>Note: This session builds on the webinar on "Assessment of Tax Administration". To access the webinar, please click here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jason Jacques, Director, Parliamentary Budget Office, Canada (Via Webex) ▪ Alan Plumley, Internal Revenue Service, United States

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13	2:15-3:15	<p>Leadership Group Reflections</p> <p>Reflect on the day's session through the lens of your Leadership Group and prepare brief feedback for tomorrow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Community Keepers</i> will discuss the composition of the community and their respective roles ▪ <i>Agenda Activists</i> will steward the learning content and themes for the conference ▪ <i>Social Reporters</i> will discuss and keep records of the insights and meeting outputs that need to be captured and recorded 	
	3:15 -3:30 pm	Afternoon Break , tea and refreshments	
End of Day 2			
Group Dinner starts at 7 PM (Venue to be announced during the Assembly)			

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DAY THREE: Thursday, JUNE 9, 2016			
	TIME	TITLE	CONTRIBUTORS
14	9:00-9:30am	<p>Social Reporters Report Back Report on previous day's reflections and community activities from Day 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social Reporters Leadership Group
15	9:30-10:30	<p>Data Visualization: Tools and Techniques In this session, participants will learn about various data visualization tools and techniques that they can use to enhance the quality and readability of their reports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maureen Costantino, Visual Information and Publications Specialist, Congressional Budget Office (CBO), United States <p>Discussant South African Delegation</p>
	10:30-10:45 am	<p>Mid-Morning Break Coffee, tea and refreshments</p>	
16	10:45-11:45	<p>Communicating Analysis to Stakeholders It is critical for a PBO to demonstrate its credibility and relevance through effective and accessible communication to its full spectrum of stakeholders (e.g. parliamentarians, media, citizens, experts). This session will address approaches to a PBO's communication and will address the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can a PBO leverage online tools, social media and traditional media to communicate its findings? ▪ Are there approaches that are best suited to particular stakeholder groups? ▪ What makes a PBO's reports technically sophisticated but publicly accessible? ▪ How can a PBO bring its stakeholders (namely media and parliamentarians) to more fully appreciate its mandate and outputs? 	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deborah Kilroe, Associate Director for Communications, Congressional Budget Office, USA ▪ Sahir Khan, University of Ottawa ▪ Representation from Kenyan Delegation

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		<p>Note: This session will build on the webinar on “How to write MP friendly budget”. To access the webinar, please click here</p>	
17	11:45-12:30	<p>Debt Management This session will provide an overview of debt management, approaches and tools to identify and assess its related risk, as well as impacted operational issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is debt management? ▪ What analysis should a PBO provide on debt management? ▪ What are the tools and approaches used in other jurisdictions to identify and assess debt management and its potential future impacts on the economy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emre Balibek, The World Bank Discussant: Cambodian Delegation (TBC)
	12:30-1:30	Lunch	
18	1:30-2:30	<p>Policy Costing This session will examine how PBOs can undertake policy costing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is policy costing and how can it be used by parliamentarians and other stakeholders? ▪ How can a PBO undertake sound policy costings (e.g. data, methodology, peer review)? ▪ How can a PBO improve the impact, credibility and accessibility of its policy costing? <p>Note: This session will build on the webinar on “Costing of Bills” . To access the webinar, please click here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simon Wakefield, Head Of Financial Scrutiny Unit, Scottish Parliament Information Centre <p>Discussant: Janet Mataka, Parliamentary Budget Office, Uganda</p>
19	2:30-3:30	<p>Expenditure Forecasting By looking forward, expenditure forecasting attempt to determine future government spending needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the tools and methodologies a PBO can use to undertake expenditure forecasting? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jason Jacques, Director, Parliamentary Budget Office, Canada (Via Webex) <p>Discussant Representative from NABO</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How should sector-specific expenditure forecasts be undertaken? ▪ How can a PBO identify the indicators to consider in their analysis (e.g. population changes, economic development, etc.)? 	
	3:30-3:45	Coffee Break	
20	3:45-4:30	<p>Evaluating the Performance of PBOs Regular performance assessments can enhance the outputs and outcomes of a PBO. In this session, a common evaluation framework will be discussed, followed by an overview of how the OECD network is cooperating to build assessment tools into the regular operations of independent fiscal institutions (IFI).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can an evaluation framework be applicable across jurisdictions? ▪ How can an evaluation framework be used at the genesis of an office and beyond? ▪ What can we learn from the OECD experience about regularized self-evaluation and peer-evaluations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helaina Gaspard, University of Ottawa ▪ Trevor Shaw, OECD
21	4:30-5:30	<p>Leadership Group Reflections Reflect on the day's session through the lens of your Leadership Group and prepare brief feedback for tomorrow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Community Keepers</i> will discuss the composition of the community and their respective roles ▪ <i>Agenda Activists</i> will steward the learning content and themes for the conference ▪ <i>Social Reporters</i> will discuss and keep records of the insights and meeting outputs that need to be captured and recorded 	
End of Day 3			

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DAY FOUR: Friday , JUNE 10, 2016			
SESSION	TIME	TITLE	CONTRIBUTORS
22	9:00-9:30am	Leadership Group Reports Back	
23	10:00-10:30	<p>Presentation of Value Creation Stories In this session, a selected set of delegations will present their value creation stories to the assembly (based on session 2). All delegations are encouraged to upload their stories to the e-PBO platform.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GNPBO Country Delegations
	10:30-11:00am	Mid-Morning Break , Coffee, tea and refreshments	
24	11:00-12:30	<p>Feedback on Working Group Based on the presentation of the Working Group members on Day 1, this session will seek feedback from participants to create an updated framework.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator: Sahir Khan, University of Ottawa
	12:30-1:30pm	Lunch	
25	1:30-2:00	<p>Individual Case Clinics: Case clinics are an opportunity for the GN-PBO community to employ problem-based learning based on their own experiences to support their peers in addressing a particular issue or challenge.</p> <p>Drawing on the experiences of existing PBOs:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator: Sahir Khan, University of Ottawa

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What were the principle challenges you faced in establishing your office (e.g. legislation, political resistance, lack of stakeholder engagement, lack of knowledgeable staff etc.)? ▪ How did you work to engrain your office in the existing parliamentary ecosystem, i.e. how did you make your office a relevant resource? ▪ How did you leverage the GN-PBO community and other peer offices to support you in your mandate? ▪ How did you determine which reports you would produce, when and how? ▪ What lessons have you learned about the design and communication of outputs? ▪ Do you track your outcomes? How can this be useful for continued improvement of your office? ▪ How did you engage stakeholders (e.g. parliamentarians, media, citizens, experts)? ▪ What are some best-practices that you think promote the viability, credibility, accountability and transparency of a PBO? <p>✓ Case Clinic: Jamaica ✓ Case Clinic: Trinidad & Tobago ✓ Case Clinic: Zambia</p>	
26	2:00 -2:45	<p>Case Clinic (con't)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Groups have 10 minutes each to report back on their reflections from their assigned country's case clinic. 	
	2:45 -3:00 pm	Afternoon Break , Coffee, tea and refreshments	

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27	3:00-3:45	<p>The Way Forward</p> <p>From the <i>Community Keepers'</i> report, participants will work in groups of 2-3 members to identify emerging priority areas for the future work of the GN-PBO community, including subject areas and willingness to participate in various activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mitchell O'Brien, Senior Governance Specialist, The World Bank
28	3:45-4:00	<p>Closing Plenary</p>	
<p>End of Assembly</p>			