

Practical steps for the transition to the Forum

TOSSD Task Force Issues Paper¹ - Agenda item 1: Governance and financing of TOSSD 21st meeting of the International TOSSD Task Force 6-7 July 2023, Virtual

1. A possible transition to the “International Forum on TOSSD” (IFT) is now six months ahead. A first discussion is thus needed on practical steps – beyond the terms of reference (TORs) of the Forum – to ensure a smooth transition from the current Task Force to the Forum. This note outlines the various steps that the Task Force could consider in this regard.
2. The main steps could be summarised as follows:
 - a. **Review by the Task Force of the revised draft TORs of the Forum².**
 - b. **Following this review, circulate the finalised draft TORs to all countries participating in the Task Force** with an invitation to approve the TORs and their entry into force as of 1 January 2024. Those countries approving the IFT TORs will thereafter be **the founding members of the IFT**, which would be launched on 1 January 2024.
 - c. **Set a date for the first meeting of the General Assembly.** This General Assembly would take place in January 2024. During this meeting, the General Assembly would:
 - **Appoint the co-Chairs**, who will be co-Chairs of both the General Assembly and the Steering Group.³
 - **Appoint the Members of the Steering Group.** In line with Section “3.d Steering Group” of the TORs, particular attention will be paid to the provisions related to the necessary balanced membership of the Steering Group across the various stakeholder groups. Also, in line with the TORs, those Members that will have pledged their financial and in-kind contributions to the Forum for the year 2024 will sit in the Steering Group.
 - d. **Set a date for the first meeting of the Steering Group.** Once appointed, the Members of the Steering Group will agree on the date for their first meeting. During this meeting, the budget and work plan for 2024 would need to be discussed.

¹ Drafted by Guillaume Delalande (guillaume.delalande@oecd.org) and Julia Benn (julia.benn@oecd.org).

² Note that references to the sections in this document refer to the document produced for the 6-7 July meeting of the Task Force and not to the 12 December version.

³ As per the TORs (section on “Chairing arrangements”): “For the initial period of two years, one of the co-Chairs will be appointed for one year and the other for two years.”

3. Early in 2024, the Secretariat could inform the TOSSD reporting community about the transition to the Forum. The Secretariat will also inform Reporters of the possibility for them to become Members of or Observers to the Forum.

Issues for discussion

Task Force members are invited to provide their views on the various practical steps outlined above to implement the transition to the Forum.