

**PUBLIC GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

High Level Risk Forum

DRAFT AGENDA - 10th OECD HIGH LEVEL RISK FORUM

1-3 December 2020
Virtual Meeting (Participants to join on Zoom)

This document presents the draft agenda of the 10th OECD High Level Risk Forum.

The OECD High Level Risk Forum provides a platform for countries to share their experiences in the management of critical risks, i.e. risks with consequences of national significance. The 10th meeting of the HLRF is an opportunity for Members to learn from collective efforts to manage the COVID-19 crisis, for example disruptions to critical flows of goods and essential services. Participants will also exchange views on emerging risks, including global cyber threats to governments.

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JT03467277

Day 1 – (1 December) 2020

Symposium on Lessons Learned in Managing the COVID-19 crisis

12:00 - 12:05

Item 1: Welcome and introductory remarks

- The Chair (Mr. Matthew TRAVIS, United States) will announce the Forum agenda, foreshadowing introduction of digital risks, and thank participants who provided pre-recorded presentations.

Action: The Chair will invite Members to adopt the Agenda of the 10th Session of the HLRF.

Reference Documents: *Agenda* - [GOV/PGC/HLRF/A\(2020\)2](#)

12:05 - 13:00

Item 2: Roundtable on country experiences in managing the COVID-19 crisis

The COVID-19 crisis has been a global shock of the magnitude that the High Level Risk Forum was established to examine, to share good practices in managing, and to identify opportunities where international cooperation could add value to solutions. All Members will be invited to provide a recorded presentation on their country's perspective of the innovations enacted and lessons to be learned from the COVID-19 crisis. These presentations will be made available on a secure site in advance of the meeting.

The Chair will lead a roundtable discussion around key crisis management challenges and innovations that are highlighted in the video presentations submitted.

Reference Documents: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)1](#), [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)2](#)

13:00 - 14:00

Item 3: Breakout sessions on managing the COVID-19 crisis

- Key transboundary aspects and the role of international cooperation in managing the COVID-19 crisis
 - Implications of managing existing critical risks under a context of COVID-19, such a major wildfires and water related risks
 - Government evaluations of COVID-19 crisis and links to reforms of risk management strategy and policy
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14:00 - 14:45

Item 4: Plenary session on highlights of break-out sessions

Participants will be invited to report on key outcomes/highlights of the break-out sessions, and to suggest what follow-up would be useful for OECD to take in terms of its research agenda related to governance of critical risks. The OECD will present a proposal to develop a cross country report on management of the COVID-19 crisis in 2021 that collects inputs from Members on the actions they have taken, lessons learned so far, concerning transboundary aspects of managing the COVID-19 crisis.

Action: Members are requested to come prepared to comment on the proposed scope and process of the proposed cross country study.

Reference document: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2019\)3](#)

2 December 2020

12:00- 12:15

Item 1: Welcome and introductory remarks

- The Chair (Mr. Matthew TRAVIS, United States) will welcome delegates to the Forum.
- (tbc) Ms. Elsa PILICHOWSKI, OECD Director of Public Governance, will provide introductory remarks and speak on the importance of dependable supply chains for essential goods to societal resilience.

12:10 - 13:30

Item 2: Critical Flows: Security of Supply in goods, services and critical infrastructure

The COVID-19 crisis, like the 2010 eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland, and 2011 floods in Thailand, demonstrated the vulnerability of international supply and value chains to shock events. This session will examine how coordination between Members can mitigate risks to international flows of goods, products and services and collectively strengthen their security of supply in the face of shock events. Speakers will present existing forms of cooperation to illustrate how to secure flows and dependencies between and shared by them. Participants will be invited to discuss opportunities for further cooperation whereby Members could better thrive amidst the increasing and deepening connections transcending national boundaries.

Three polls to launch discussion:

- What do Members consider to be essential goods and supplies?
- What types of mitigation measures should be considered to ensure supply to essential goods and services is not disrupted by an external shock event?
- How could OECD support countries on analysis of external shocks to supply of essential goods and services?

Reference documents: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)4](#)

13:30 - 14:45

Item 3: Roundtable on managing digital risk arising from global cyber threats

Technological developments are key to economic growth and productivity and have an inherent convening and connecting effect across governments. Information networks facilitate international commerce, and power cross-border internet-enabled infrastructure systems. While technology delivers convenience, comfort, security, and economic activity, sinister cyber threat actors have introduced critical digital risk as an inseparable dimension of policy making for public safety, security and resilience. This session will focus on how to assess national risks from evolving cyber threats and the governance challenges surrounding the design and implementation of new approaches to mitigate these and other national risks. Participants will be invited to participate actively in an open discussion and provide feedback to the speakers as well as comments on pre-recorded presentations to maximize cross country learning.

Reference document: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)5](#)

3 December 2020

12:00- 12:10

Item 1: Chair's welcome

- The Chair (Mr. Matthew TRAVIS, United States) will welcome delegates to the Forum and announce the agenda.
 - (tbc) Mr. Jeffrey SCHLAGENHAUF, OECD Deputy Secretary-General will provide introductory remarks on anticipatory governance and foresight in the management of critical risks
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12:10 - 13:40

Item 2: Identifying and assessing emerging risks

Anticipating, prioritizing, and mitigating against new or evolving risks is a key aspect to managing national risks in a dynamic and fast changing environment. In many cases, the challenge is as much about changing technologies and risk introduced from reliance on technology as it is about threat actors themselves. In this session, speakers will present their process, to include methodologies and results of analysis on emerging risks and highlight new risks that have been added to their risk registers, especially those that present transboundary risks of concern to the broader High-Level Risk Forum community.

Polls to launch discussion:

- What are the emerging risks facing your country?
- Is there a process in place in your Ministry to bring emerging risks to the attention of decision makers?
- How could OECD support countries in mapping and analysing risks on the horizon and their potential impacts across sectors?

Reference document: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)6](#)

13:40- 14:10

Item 3: Launch of the OECD indicators on governance of critical infrastructure resilience

This session will launch a major milestone and output of the High Level Risk Forum; a quantitative set of cross country indicators on governance of critical infrastructure resilience. OECD will present its indicators and select Members will be invited present on how they could use them for guidance going forward.

14:10-14:30

Item 4: Next steps

The Chair will provide summary remarks on the series of virtual meetings, lead reflections on how the discussions could guide future directions of the Forum and reflect on where it adds value and support of efforts to strengthen international cooperation. Delegates will be invited to indicate interest in future projects as part of the Forum's programme of work, such as sub-regional case studies and national or thematic workshops in furtherance of implementing the OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks.

Reference document:

Discussion note on possible High Level Risk Forum work streams for 2021-2022 [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2020\)7](#)

14:30 - Close of meeting
