

The OECD Policy Framework for Investment (PFI): 2014 Update

Overview of Chapters, Draft BIAC Comments, Next Steps

BIAC Development Task Force, 6 November 2014, Paris

The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD Comité consultatif économique et industriel auprès de l'OCDE

About the PFI

- Established in 2006.
- Helps governments and regions to design and implement policy reforms to create an attractive, robust and competitive environment for domestic and foreign investment.
- Forms the basis for OECD Investment Policy Reviews of emerging and developing economies (over 30 produced).

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What the PFI looks like...

• A comprehensive set of questions to policymakers across a range of investment policy areas.







2014 Update of the PFI: Strengthening the Development Dimension

The goal is to better reflect the following:

- Gender and minorities
- Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- Investment for green growth
- Infrastructure investment
- Regional, subnational and local dimensions
- Informal sector

The PFI reinforces a key view of the BIAC Development Task Force – i.e. to urge governments to improve their enabling environments for business.

The updated PFI could play a useful role in supporting financing for development and the Post-2015 processes



The Update Process

Consultations ongoing...

- 13 OECD Committees & Working Parties
- Regional consultations
- Online public consultation
- Stakeholder consultation on 2 December 2014, Paris



Timeline for completion:

- Draft chapters by end 2014
- Full complete draft by January 2015
- Delivery to the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, Paris (June 2015)
- Possible presentation at the Financing for Development Conference, Addis Ababa (July 2015)



Chapters...

Available so far:

- Investment policy
- Investment promotion and facilitation
- Investment in infrastructure
- Responsible business conduct
- Investment framework for green growth
- Trade policy*

Coming soon (by end 2014):

- Human resources development
- Public governance
- Financial sector development
- Corporate governance
 - Tax policy
- Competition

* Circulated this week



BIAC comments

- BIAC comments being developed on first set of chapters, deadline Friday 7 November (12 noon).
- The Trade Policy chapter has just been circulated (comments by 24 November).
- Additional chapters will be circulated to members once available and comments invited.



Highlights from the draft BIAC comments (1)

- **Rule of law:** Currently not much emphasis in the PFI. Should this be stressed more? Which specific questions could be included?
- **Informal economy:** This could be emphasized more. An enabling investment framework can incentivize firms to transition to the formal economy. *Any specific questions to add?*
- International investment agreements: The tone of the PFI regarding BITs and ISDS needs better balance.



Highlights from the draft BIAC comments (2)

- **Policy predictability:** The PFI could say more about the need for predictability and stability of investment policies. *Which questions could be added?*
- **Implementation:** The PFI could say much more about how the investment policies should be implemented, especially due to capacity constraints in developing countries. *Which questions could be relevant to ask policymakers here? What about the issue of public-private dialogue?*



Highlights from the draft BIAC comments (3)

- Responsible business conduct (RBC):
 - RBC applies not only to MNEs, but also local companies.
 - RBC comprises legal norms plus voluntary actions that go beyond the law. The PFI confuses both.
 - All stakeholders, not only companies, should be held to comparable levels of responsible conduct.



Highlights from the draft BIAC comments (4)

- **Market access:** Is enough said in the PFI? What sorts of issues should be raised?
- **Green growth:** The PFI refers to 'green investment', 'green infrastructure', 'green goods', etc., but doesn't recognize importance of "traditional" sectors for so-called environmental goods and 'green' industries.
- **Infrastructure:** The PFI could say more about the *financing* of infrastructure projects (e.g. project pipelines, issues of scale, and coordination across different levels of government).



Questions for Discussion

- Do you agree with the draft BIAC comments?
- Do you have any additional issues that you would like to see reflected in the PFI?
- Which of the forthcoming chapters are of most interest to you?
- Would you be interested to potentially participate in the stakeholder consultation on 2 December?
- Should BIAC promote the final PFI in the context of the Post-2015 agenda? How?





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