

Networking Conference on Orderly and Fair Debt Workout Mechanisms

Berlin/Germany, Monday, April 12th 2010

Background Information

Organizers:

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Berlin
erlassjahr.de (Jubilee Germany)

Venue:

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Hiroshimastrasse 28, 10785 Berlin

Objective:

Providing a forum for information sharing among government representatives, parliamentarians, academics and NGOs on the need and the options for a fair debt workout mechanism. Identifying areas of consensus among the participants as well as the need for further conceptual work. Defining opportunities and next steps in a global reform process.

Format:

One-day seminar with around 20-25 participants. Inputs on

- the various concepts of fair and orderly debt workouts
- the need for new mechanisms to deal with renewed debt unsustainability as a result of the financial crisis
- a roadmap towards reform.

As the objective is one of exploration and open discussion the conference be held under the Chatham House rule¹. Organisers will draft a summary under their sole responsibility.

Short (10-15 minutes), followed by plenary discussion and moderator's summaries.

Participants

- Representatives of governments, which have already committed to work towards a debt management reform or expressed interest in joining a debate.
- Leading academics on debt management reform and international insolvency procedures

¹ "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".

- Interested members of national parliaments as well as the European Parliament
- NGOs and NGO networks working on debt management reform.
- UN institutions and other international bodies interested in the topic.
- Representatives of governments from the South, as far as they show interest in joining the debate.

(The conference is not meant to involve the existing institutions in the field of sovereign debt management (IFIs, Paris Club Secretariat) at this early stage of international consensus building).

Preparation and Follow-up

Organizers commit to provide participants with two-pagers on key issues, including links to extensive literature.

Follow-up beyond the drafting of the organizers' summary will be subject to discussion at the conference.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung / erlassjahr.de, 4.3.2010