

MINUTES

SENIOR BOARD MEETING No. 32, 9 November 2017

The five members of the Senior Board held their thirtieth second formal meeting on 9 November 2017. The event took place at the CFP headquarters, Praça de Alvalade, n.º 6 – 10.º, in Lisbon, and started at 15h30m. All members attended: Teodora Cardoso, who chaired, Paul De Grauwe, Miguel St. Aubyn, George Kopits and Carlos Marinheiro. Luis Centeno, head of the technical services, was also present.

1. Decisions

By unanimous vote, the Senior Board decided to:

- 1.1. Approve of Minutes of Meeting No. 31, held on 13 September 2017
- 1.2. Confirm Report No. 7/2017 entitled “[Finanças Públicas: Situação e Condicionantes - Atualização 2017-2021](#)”
- 1.3. Confirm Report No. 8/2017 entitled “[Evolução orçamental até ao final do 2.º trimestre de 2017](#)”
- 1.4. Confirm Report No. 9/2017 entitled “[Análise da proposta de Orçamento do Estado para 2018](#)”
- 1.5. Confirm Opinion No. 2/2017 entitled “[Previsões macroeconómicas subjacentes à Proposta de Orçamento do Estado 2018](#)”
- 1.6. Confirm Occasional Paper No. 4/2017, by Teodora Cardoso, entitled “[A Gestão Orçamental em Portugal: aspirações em busca de soluções](#)”

2. Debriefing of the parliamentary hearing on the Draft State Budget for 2018

The Board members expressed their opinions on the parliamentary hearing events being consensual that it was a constructive debate on the report.

The issue of the effects of the debt burden on fiscal policy and fiscal stance, considering the vulnerability it represents and the financial risks on the horizon, linked with the anticipated rise and normalization of interest rates.

Social and fiscal sustainability has been mentioned linked to the risks of complacency on the basis of the recent good economic and employment results and good credit ratings. A word of caution has been agreed on the need of both with a view to the medium and long term effects of social and fiscal policies.

In this vein a discussion on the trajectory of the Portuguese economy in recent decades has taken place around the table leading to an assessment of the risks arising from the lessons that can be drawn from that.

3. CFP's peer review: state of play

The President of the Senior Board briefly presented the information received from OECD regarding the subject.

The preparation is due to start by the end of 2017 and its completion is due by the first half of 2018.

4. CFP's activities for 2018: discussion

The Head of the Technical Services made a presentation of the Publications Plan for 2018 that may include new issues on subjects that are part of CFP's remit and that have not yet been formally addressed. The main issues to be addressed in a publication are fiscal risks and public finance sustainability. In addition the health sector and subnational finances will also be the subject of some publication.

The board accepted the plan presented but it has been agreed that a deeper discussion on the new issues proposed to be addressed should take place on a subsequent meeting of the Board.

5. Next Senior Board Meeting schedule

The next meeting of the Board has been scheduled to 24 January at 10:00 AM.