

Final Agenda
Tax Foundation's 67th Annual Conference and Dinner
Thursday, November 18, 2004

Four Seasons Hotel, Washington, DC

Topic: Global Tax Reform: Who's Leading, Who's Lagging, and is the U.S. in the Race?

Purpose: The goal of the conference is to bring a global perspective on trends in tax reform, particularly of corporate taxes, to the Washington legislative and public policy community. We will explore the reasons why many small open economies have reformed their tax systems, cut their corporate tax rates, and how those policies have benefited their economies. We will then examine how advanced countries have responded to this wave of global tax reform. The conference will conclude with a discussion on the prospects for tax reform in the next US Administration.

8:00 – 8:45 Speaker Breakfast with Jeffrey Owens and Scott Hodge

9:00 a.m. **Welcome**

Scott Hodge, President Tax Foundation

9:10 – 9:45 **A Global Perspective on Tax Reform**

Presentation by Jeffrey Owens, Director, Centre for Tax and Policy Administration, OECD (confirmed)

Issues:

- The global quest to provide a competitive fiscal environment
- Trends in Corporate Tax Reform
- Reconciling efficiency, fairness and simplicity
- The role of tax administration in promoting reform
- Changing patterns of financing state and local governments

9:50–11:00 **Tax Reform/Lessons from Successful Small Open Economies**

Panel Discussion featuring: (15-20 minutes each)

Ireland: Charles O'Loughlin, Executive Director, IMF (confirmed)

Poland: Jaroslaw Neneman, Under-Secretary of State (confirmed)

Slovak Republic: Mr. Vladimir Tvaroska, State Secretary, Ministry of Finance (confirmed)

Issues:

- What role has tax reform, particularly of the taxes on corporations, played in the success of these economies?
- What has been the impact on tax revenues and tax compliance?
- What is the next round of reforms?

11:05 – 12:15 **How will large Advanced Economies Respond to these Global Trends?**

Panel Discussion featuring: (15-20 minutes each)

United Kingdom: Dawn Primarolo M.P., Paymaster General (confirmed)

Russia: Vadim N. Grishin, Head of the Economic Office (Senior Counselor) of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to the U.S. (confirmed)

Canada: Bob Hamilton, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tax Policy (confirmed)

- Issues:
- What is the influence of the new competitive global environment on their economies and tax policies?
 - How have they reconciled the need for tax revenues with the need to promote competition and at the same time maintain the fairness of the tax systems?
 - What are the emerging challenges for tax reform?

Questions and Answers

12:15 – 1:00 **Lunch Break with Keynote Address**

Samuel W. Bodman, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of the Treasury (confirmed)

1:15 – 3:00 **Prospects for U.S. Reform in 2005 and Beyond**

1:15 – 1:45 **U.S. Tax Code in a Global Economy**

Hon. Bill Thomas, Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee (confirmed)

1:45—3:00 **Principles of Fundamental Tax Reform**

Hon. Dick Armey, House Majority Leader, retired (confirmed)

Hon. Phil English (confirmed)

Hon. John Linder (confirmed)

3:00 **Conference Wrap-Up:** Scott Hodge

6:00 – 7:00 **Reception, Four Seasons Hotel**

7:00 – 9:30 **Award Dinner**

Public Sector Distinguished Service Award: **Senator Don Nickles**

Private Sector Distinguished Service Award: **Lee R. Raymond**, Chairman and CEO, Exxon Mobil Corporation.

9:30 – 10:30 Post-Dinner Reception