Transcription:Press briefing: OECD Global Forum and Ministerial Meeting in Luxembourg (18.11.2022)

Speakers

• Sam Tanson, Ministry of Justice and Minister of Culture

• Kerri-Ann Jones, Deputy Secretary-General of the OCDE

Languages

• English

• French

Transcription

[Sam Tanson]

[Traduction inaudible]

Bonne après-midi à tous.

Les représentants des médias maintenant ici dans la salle, mais aussi en ligne merci de participer à cette conférence de presse qui clôture la ministériel et le forum global de l'Organisation de coopération des développements économiques.

Nous sommes très heureux de vous accueillir et de pouvoir vous communiquer les résultats de cet important événement que le Luxembourg a eu l'honneur d'organiser ensemble avec l'OCDE et de co-présider ensemble avec la Colombie, les États-Unis, la France et la Lituanie. Le moment peut être déclencheur de cette initiative c'était certainement le 6 janvier lorsque l'attaque sur le Capitole américain a eu lieu et qui nous a vraiment rappelé à tous que nos démocraties peuvent être en danger du jour au lendemain. Et le monde a fait face à de nombreuses crises entre temps et pendant ce même moment que ce soit la crise du COVID ou actuellement la guerre injustifiée que mène la Russie en Ukraine.

Tout cela montre, la montée des populismes qui est possible très rapidement, les mouvements communautaristes et qui risquent aussi de traduire la perte de confiance des citoyens dans les valeurs démocratiques. L'OCDE, ses membre et pays partenaires, s'emploie à renverser ces tendances et à rétablir la confiance dans nos institutions.

Je profite de l'occasion pour remercier Madame la Secrétaire Générale-adjointe pour son engagement et sa dévotion à ses efforts. Nous avons travaillé ensemble sans relâche ces derniers mois pour appréhender les origines profondes de ces crises et proposer des solutions. Les engagements collectifs de vaste portée adoptée aujourd'hui aideront les gouvernements à faire face à ces défis et à considérer les fondements de nos systèmes démocratiques afin de les rendre plus résilients et plus réactif à l'avenir.

Je suis dès lors très heureuse que la réunion ministérielle est aboutie à l'adoption de la déclaration sur l'instauration de la confiance et le renforcement de la démocratie dans laquelle les ministres et représentants à haut niveau, ont réaffirmé leur engagement et apporté leur soutien à une panoplie de mesures concrètes. Notamment un ensemble de plans d'action consacré à la lutte contre la désinformation, à une participation plus efficace de nos concitoyens au processus démocratique et à une gouvernance plus verte. Le lancement d'un « Forum mondial de l'OCDE » sur l'instauration de la confiance et le renforcement de la démocratie, qui se réunira tous les deux ans. Donc le prochain aura lieu en 2024, en tant que plateforme de mise en commun des connaissances d'évaluation et d'amélioration de la gouvernance publique.

Le lancement d'un centre de ressources de l'OCDE sur la désinformation où déjà un certain nombre de pays, dont le Luxembourg, s'est engagé à financer ce centre de ressources.

Finalement, une enquête amenée tous les deux ans dans les pays membres de l'OCDE sur les déterminants de la confiance dans les institutions publiques. Encore une fois, un grand merci à l'OCDE à tous les participants à cet important événement et je donne la parole à la Secrétaire Générale-adjointe Kerri-Ann Jones.

[Kerri-Ann Jones]

[French]

[Translation inaudible]

Merci.

I will speak in English. Thank you ladies and gentlemen from the media for being here in person and those of you online. The OECD is very, very grateful to Luxembourg for hosting this ministerial meeting and for the leadership it has shown in advancing the OECD's agenda, its members’ agenda for building trust and strength in democracy.

I would like to particularly thank Minister Tanson for her work. We had a great partnership between our teams.

This meeting comes at a very historic moment. We are, as the Minister has said, our democracies are under increasing pressure, from both within and from outside. Many things show us this:lower voter turnout in some countries, greater political polarization, and a larger and larger group of citizens dissociating themselves from traditional democratic processes. These pose significant threats to our democracies.

This is happening even in the most well-established democracies and they are testing institutions and they are hindering our government's ability to deliver services to citizens.

At the same time, there is the backdrop of major global disruptions such as the pandemic, Russians war of aggression against Ukraine, and climate change, making all of this much, much harder.

We have worked hard with the 38 member countries, the EU and their partners over the past 18 months to analyse, review early reforms, in attempts to strengthen democracy in many countries and come up with conclusions and a way forward, that were just adapted a few minutes ago by the 38 members, the EU and four countries currently in accession to the OECD.

This is a milestone for OECD and it is just the beginning of its efforts.

At this complex moment of our country's democratic life, the ministers have strongly reiterated their country's commitment to the core values of democracy, as well as deepening and protecting their democratic societies.

We look forward to working on this ambitious agenda.

This includes continuing to monitor and analyse the drivers of trust in public institutions through the OECD survey on the drivers of trust in public institutions.

The first survey was conducted in 2021, published in 2022, and it served as an important document for these discussions.

22 countries participated in that survey.

Now, there are more and more countries want to participate.

Germany has just announced that they will participate in the next survey, and we are expecting more countries to make their announcements.

So we look forward to your questions and to working on this very important initiative together with all the members of the OECD. Thank you.

[Sam Tanson] Do you have questions?

Other questions online?

[Inaudible]

[Sam Tanson]

Look at this document we're all going to study it again. We have studied it already but Luxembourg is one of the countries that has taken part in it and it's a very good indicator of the trust of the population and the citizens in the different institutions. It also shows that there is a lack of trust at present Luxembourg is in a quite good position, but all the same it is a very useful instrument for us to help us emphasize the elements to highlight the elements that need to be further strengthened.

One of the elements that I found the most challenging is that there is a there is less confidence in the information media, in the news media. It varies from one country to the other but it's largely under 50 percent. For the representatives of the Luxembourg press well it's quite good, the level of trust in the Luxembourg press is quite good, but there is disparities. There are disparities between trust in the national levels and the local levels. We see that a local government level are higher than the levels of confidence in national governments. And one last point which we discussed a lot during these two days because "green governance" was one of the strong points of this global forum.

It was very important because we dealt with this question at the level of the ministers of the environment but also among ministers responsible for more general fields and we can see that citizens really want the government to engage into the the fight again climates change and they're a bit desperate.

They don't trust in the capacity of the governments to succeed in that struggle so and that's right so I see a lot of potential for improvement for the governments who have that have participated and for the governments which are going to participate in the next edition.

[Kerri-Ann Jones]

[Inaudible]

The declaration that was just improved: "The declaration on building trust and reinforcing democracy, the Luxembourg declaration."

So it has the full name and then, the name of our hosts who have been gracious and really very strong partners in all of this.

Thank you very much.

[Sam Tanson]

If you if there are no further questions. We will remain available in case

you need additional information.