

Annex I

Fiscal Policy Audit Network: The Parallel Audit

Timetable

Please inform the National Audit Office of Finland by 20th of February 2015 by sending an email to (international.relations@vtv.fi):

- 1) If you are willing to take part in the parallel audit and
- 2) Express your two preferred audit topics in your preference order

Themes of the Parallel Audit

Theme 1: Underlying risks for sustainability of public finances

The audit topic could include liabilities, guarantees, public debt.

Theme 2: The formation and application of budgetary rules – long term effects

Through the workshops of the Fiscal Policy Audit Network we have increased our knowledge on how member states have adopted and implemented budgetary rules in order to strengthen public finances. Although the budgetary rules differ among member states, there may be common questions and issues arising from their use. Since the budgetary rules' main objective is to ensure a stable fiscal situation in the medium-term, there may be issues linked to long-term sustainability that have been given less attention. Considering this, it may be interesting to pose the following questions:

- Do the budgetary rules support structural changes policy that will promote growth?
- Is the development of public investments monitored in order to safeguard that these are not down-prioritized in a too large extent?
- Is there a long-term vision concerning the “optimal” size of the public debt?

Theme 3: The reliability of the underlying data

The audit topic could include forecasts, statistics, and other underlying data.