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“Smooth and effective decision making and high-quality evaluation services are key to the OECD’s impact and relevance. The Council Secretariat provides an interface with members, preparing the decisions that shape the future of the OECD and its ability to promote better policies for better lives. In 2019, CES will continue to support good institutional governance in a dynamic environment. Through evaluation services, it will contribute to and demonstrate the OECD’s credibility as a learning organisation.”

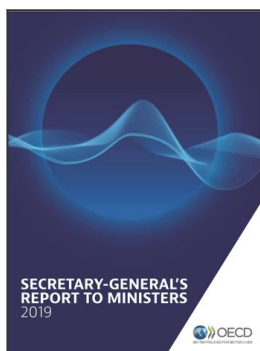
Council and Executive Committee Secretariat

The **Council Secretariat (CES)** serves the Council, the Executive Committee, heads of delegation meetings, the Global Strategy Group, the Ministerial Council Meeting and the Evaluation Committee. In-depth evaluations provide systematic and objective assessments of the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the OECD’s substantive committees, among other things, to inform Council decisions on the appropriateness and renewal of their mandates.

CES provides a hub for members and the Secretary-General in support of smooth decision making, good institutional governance and co-ordination, and enhanced use of evaluation and monitoring.

CES delivers assistance and advice on institutional, policy and procedural aspects of the Council’s activities and work programme. It provides a liaison among standing committees and between the Secretariat and member delegations. It builds and maintains good relationships with members and supports them in the governance process. CES provides strategic governing body support and digital project management, including the conception and design of platforms and databases for organising meetings and for the accurate processing and timely dissemination of documents. Throughout 2018, members worked on challenging issues, and governing bodies met many times. In this context, CES has strengthened its focus on relationships and information flows with OECD delegations in Paris.

In-depth evaluation plays a key role in supporting the OECD’s mission, through forward-looking recommendations, identification of good practices, and advice on monitoring and evaluation. This helps to reinforce the OECD’s transparency and accountability and contributes to learning and improvement within the Organisation. 2018 was an important year for in-depth evaluation. The second evaluation cycle ends, and the third begins, with enhanced methodology and increased scope. ■



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