

PREPARATORY MEETING

Debt sustainability and economic convergence of euro-area Member States: Challenges and Solutions

23 February 2015 at 13.30-15.00 (Room: ASP 5G2)

**in advance of the Economic Dialogue with the President of the Eurogroup
ECON on 24 February 2015**

PROGRAMME

*Presentations – 10 minutes per speaker
Joint discussion with ECON members
The draft briefing papers are provided to the ECON members
in advance of the preparatory meeting.*

CONTEXT

In view of the economic dialogue on 24 February 2015 ECON members have requested the briefing papers with the main objective to analyse and suggest the most appropriate policy measures (and their balance) at the EU and the national level that would help bringing debt dynamics on a sustainable path and fostering economic convergence within the Euro area. Furthermore, the briefing should indicate what kind of growth enhancing policy measures could be envisaged to achieve these goals, also in view of the current provisions of the Stability and Growth Pact and the expected interpretation note from the Commission on the possible ways to use flexibility in this context.

PRESENTATIONS OF THE BRIEFING PAPERS BY THE SPEAKERS (13.30–14.10)

- **Mr. Paolo Mauro**
Senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics (by video conference), US
- **Mr. Xavier Ragot**
CNRS, OFCE President, Paris School of Economics, Associate professor, France
- **Mr. Clemens Fuest**
President and Director of Science and Research of the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) in Mannheim, Germany
- **Mr. Paolo Manasse**
Professor of Macroeconomics and International Economic Policy at the University of Bologna, Italy

JOINT DISCUSSION WITH ECON MEMBERS (14.10–15.00)

The speakers take questions and answers from ECON members.