



Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIVERSE SECTORS TO OFFER PERSPECTIVES ON HOW TO RESTORE ECONOMIC GROWTH ON THE ISLAND

*Oversight Board dedicates sixth Open Meeting
entirely to the subject of Puerto Rico's economic development*

(San Juan, PR – March 30, 2017) – The Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (the “Oversight Board”) created under the bipartisan Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act (“PROMESA” or the “Act”) confirmed today the roster of panelists who will speak at the Oversight Board’s sixth Open Meeting on economic development to be held in San Juan tomorrow, Friday, March 31, 2017.

The panelists, representing a diversity of sectors, will offer Board members their perspectives on how to restore economic growth on the Island. The Oversight Board will dedicate the entire meeting to the subject of economic development.

The meeting’s agenda will commence with a macroeconomic overview panel featuring Dr. Andrew Wolfe, Adjunct Professorial Lecturer for the School of International Service, American University; J. Joaquín Villamil, Chairman and CEO, Estudios Técnicos; and Gustavo Vélez, President and Founder, Inteligencia Económica.

Governor of Puerto Rico Ricardo Rosselló Nevaes, will present his administration’s “Plan for Puerto Rico” as the Island’s foundation for economic growth. He will be followed by Puerto Rico’s Resident Commissioner, Jenniffer González, who will address the challenges and opportunities of implementing the Report of the Congressional Task Force on Economic Growth in Puerto Rico.

The panel “Infrastructure as a Key Component for the Economic Development of Puerto Rico” will feature Oversight Board Deputy Executive Director Ramón M. Ruiz; Puerto Rico Public Partnerships Authority Executive Director Omar Marrero and Neyssa Varela, former President of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Associated General Contractors.

Testifying on behalf of the Third Sector as an Engine of Economic Growth will be Dr. Nelson I. Colón Tarrats, President, Community Foundation of Puerto Rico; Rafael Cortés Dapena, President, Angel Ramos Foundation; Dra. Nilda Morales, President and CEO, Society, Education and Rehabilitation of Puerto Rico (SER) de PR; and Samuel González Cardona, President and CEO, United Way of Puerto Rico.

The director of the Graduate School on Social Sciences of the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (UCPR), Elsie Ruiz Santana J.D, M.S.S., and the director of the Graduate School on Psychology of the UCPR, Dr. Ilia C. Rosario Nieves, will present their recent study on the impact of migration in Puerto Rico as part of the panel dedicated to the challenges and opportunities around the Puerto Rican migration. Isabel Rullán, Co-Founder and Managing Director, ConPRmetidos, will also join the discussion.

The panel on “Education and Training the Workforce for Economic Success” will feature Manuel J. Fernós, President, Interamerican University of Puerto Rico; Gretchen Manzanal, President, Liceo de Arte y Tecnología; and Ernesto Vázquez Barquet, President, Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico.

Clarissa Jiménez, President and CEO, Puerto Rico Hotel and Tourism Association; Agustín Arellano, Chief Executive Officer, Aerostar Airport Holdings; and Jon Borschow, Chairman of the Board, Foundation for Puerto Rico, will make presentations on the subject of how the tourism sector can impact economic growth.

On the subject of “Reinvigorating Puerto Rico’s Manufacturing Base” the Oversight Board will hear from Felipe Palacios, Chairperson, Puerto Rico Pharmaceutical Industry Association; Kerri Ingalls, Vice President and Site Leader, Amgen Manufacturing Ltd., Juncos, Puerto Rico; and Lucy Crespo, CEO, Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust.

The concluding panel will focus on “Energizing Puerto Rico's Private Sector to Drive Economic Growth” and will include presentations from Ignacio Álvarez, President and COO, Banco Popular; Sebastián Vidal, Executive Director, Parallel 18; Josen Rossi, Managing Partner and Chairman, Aireko; Alberto Lugo, President, Invid; and Ricardo Álvarez Díaz, President, Puerto Rico Builders Association.

The Oversight Board also invites individuals, businesses and organizations from all sectors to send their ideas and recommendations on how to restore economic growth to Puerto Rico via the Board's website www.oversightboard.pr.gov under "economic development" or via email comments@oversightboard.pr.gov. All testimonies received by the Board will be available on its website shortly after the deadline, unless confidentiality is requested. The request for confidentiality must be stated explicitly within the response and in the subject line of the email.

The Oversight Board's sixth Open Meeting will stream live via the Board's website: www.oversightboard.pr.gov and www.juntasupervision.pr.gov. The audio will be available in both, English and Spanish. If you access the English version of the website, you will hear the original English translation. If you access the Spanish version of the website, you will hear the simultaneous translation into Spanish.

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