



Anti-Corruption & Ombudsman Global Trend 2023. 1.



Anti-Corruption &
Civil Rights Commission



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I. Anti-Corruption News

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1. U.S.

Summit for Democracy: Progress in the Year of Action

(The White House, Nov 29, 2022)

During the “Year of Action” following the first Summit for Democracy in December 2021, the United States and over 100 partner governments around the world have taken meaningful steps to build more resilient democracies, combat corruption, and defend human rights. Summit participants have undertaken important pro-democracy reforms at home, contributed to impactful multilateral initiatives, and worked together to resist authoritarian aggression, including Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified war against Ukraine.

President Biden is pleased to announce that on March 29-30, 2023, he will co-host the second Summit for Democracy with the leaders of Costa Rica, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of Zambia. This diverse group of co-hosts underscores the universal desire for accountable, transparent, and rights-respecting governance.

At this second Summit, world leaders will showcase progress made on their commitments to build more resilient democracies; announce new commitments and initiatives to build on that momentum; reaffirm the central role of

democratic institutions in delivering prosperity and safeguarding liberty; and underscore the effectiveness of collective action in tackling the most pressing challenges of our time.

At the first Summit for Democracy, participating governments announced nearly 750 commitments aimed at strengthening and safeguarding democracy at home and abroad. During the Year of Action, Summit participants have supported one another in fulfilling these goals, including through government-to-government consultations and participation in multi-stakeholder Democracy Cohorts focused on topics including technology, media freedom, countering disinformation, youth engagement, financial transparency and integrity, and gender equality and women's political participation, among others.

At home, the Biden-Harris Administration continues to demonstrate that democracy can still deliver, and helps improve people's lives and address the greatest challenges before us. Working together with Congress, President Biden has signed into law transformative legislation that will grow the American economy and create more well-paying jobs for American workers, invest in infrastructure, reduce gun violence, improve access to health care, and protect our climate.

Select achievements during the Year of Action aligned to the five pillars of the Summit for Democracy's Presidential Initiative for Democracy Renewal include:

Supporting Free and Independent Media

Together with partners, the U.S. Government's investments in press freedom and independent media are intended to maintain journalists' ability to inform the public and to improve citizens' capacity to hold their governments accountable. Our efforts in the Year of Action have supported the development, sustainability, and independence of public interest media, and helped protect journalists physically, digitally, and legally. For example:

Bolstering Independent Media. Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has invested \$20 million in the International Fund for Public Interest Media (IFPIM), a multi-donor fund to support independent media in low- and middle-income countries. Our investment, combined with support from a growing list of governments, private companies, and foundations, has helped launch the first round of awards, which garnered applications from more than 200 media organizations from 17 countries around the world. Additionally, through USAID's Media Viability Accelerator, we are supporting the creation of a data platform that will: 1) enable media outlets to better understand the markets, audiences, and strategies that will maximize their odds of profitability; and 2) provide donors with market data and financial strategies to ensure their support to media is sustainable. In September, the United States joined the International Partnership for Information and Democracy, which promotes democratic principles in the global information and communications space.

Protecting Journalists Physically, Digitally, and Legally. As part of the Summit for Democracy's Presidential Initiative for Democratic Renewal, USAID will

soon launch Reporters Mutual, an innovative insurance vehicle that will cover the cost of defending journalists, civil society activists, and their organizations from defamation, libel, and other lawsuits meant to silence their reporting. Additionally, together with other members of the 52-country Media Freedom Coalition, the United States worked to strengthen media freedom and the safety of journalists by issuing joint public statements highlighting deteriorating conditions and working collaboratively to streamline support for media development globally.

Fighting Corruption

Actions undertaken in the Year of Action concurrent with the U.S. Government's implementation of its first-ever Strategy on Countering Corruption reflect the scale of the threat corruption poses to transparent and accountable governance. Targeted efforts served to close loopholes and shut down safe havens; enhance partners' capacity to prevent corruption and hold corrupt actors accountable; empower civil society, media, and the private sector; leverage innovation; and respond quickly and decisively to opportunities and threats. For example:

Supporting Anti-corruption Change Agents. On July 5, the Department of State appointed a first-ever Coordinator on Global Anti-Corruption, who works with civil society, industry, and international partners to strengthen coordination on anti-corruption issues, advance U.S. anti-corruption priorities, and ensure countries are meeting their commitments and international obligations. On November 2, USAID launched the Strengthening Transparency and Accountability through Investigative Reporting (STAIR) program, a five-year,

\$20 million program that will support collaborative investigative journalism networks, foster investigative outlets' organizational and financial viability, and advance proactive, holistic approaches to safety and security.

Innovating and Partnering to Combat Corruption. The Departments of State and the Treasury, along with the Alliance for Innovative Regulation and Accountability Lab, launched the Anti-Corruption Solutions through Emerging Technologies (ASET) program to identify and develop technological responses that prevent and address corruption challenges. In June, ASET convened hundreds of participants for a Global Anti-corruption "TechSprint," where three winning teams developed solutions for increasing transparency in foreign assistance, reducing corruption in disaster relief projects, and assessing corruption risks related to maritime shipping. USAID awarded the Countering Transnational Corruption Grand Challenge for Development. The inaugural activity under the Grand Challenge, took place in November 2022, will focus on promoting transparency and accountability in the supply chains of minerals critical for the transition to a green economy.

Curbing Corruption through Strategic and Regulatory Action. In accordance with the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA), the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) issued a final rule in September to require certain companies formed or operating in the United States to report beneficial ownership information. These reports will be a vital tool for U.S. national security agencies, law enforcement, and federal regulators, as well as foreign partners and financial institutions, to prevent illicit actors from hiding the proceeds of corruption behind anonymous shell

companies in the United States. FinCEN is continuing to build the infrastructure to further implement the CTA and is also working to develop regulations to limit the ability of illicit actors to anonymize their real estate purchases. Additionally, in March 2022, the Treasury Department launched the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Rewards Program, which pays rewards to qualified individuals who provide information leading to the restraint or seizure, forfeiture, or repatriation of assets linked to foreign government corruption worldwide. Finally, the Departments of the Treasury and State continue to utilize accountability tools, such as financial sanctions and visa restrictions, in line with the recommendations of the U.S. Strategy on Countering Corruption and including those authorized by through the Global Magnitsky Sanctions Program, to designate foreign persons engaged in acts of corruption.

Strategic Multilateral Engagement to Combat Corruption: The Departments of State, Justice, and the Treasury, along with other agencies, have also continued to strengthen multilateral anti-corruption efforts to raise international standards for combatting corruption. For example, in December the U.S. Government will co-host the 2022 International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), the world's premier opportunity for civil society and government officials to collaborate on anti-corruption matters. The U.S. Government has also advanced anti-corruption standards and measures through the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), G7, and G20, as well as through the United Nations Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (Globe Network).

Strengthening Anti-Corruption Ecosystems. The United States, through both USAID and the Department of State, continues to provide robust country-level

assistance to counter and mitigate corruption around the world, collectively supporting over \$258 million in anti-corruption foreign assistance programming in FY 2020. Additionally, on September, 6 USAID rolled out a cutting-edge guide on dekleptification to support frontline actors engaged in uprooting entrenched kleptocratic structures.

Holding Russia Accountable. In response to Russia's further invasion of Ukraine, the United States, in coordination with allies and partners, launched in March the multilateral Russian Elites, Proxies, and Oligarchs (REPO) Task Force to hold accountable those responsible for and benefitting from Russia's war machine. As of June, members of the REPO Task Force have frozen more than \$30 billion worth of assets belonging to sanctioned Russians, including their high-value real estate and luxury yachts. In March, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland announced the launch of Task Force KleptoCapture, an interagency law enforcement task force dedicated to enforcing the sweeping sanctions, export restrictions, and economic countermeasures that the United States has imposed, along with allies and partners, in response to Russia's unprovoked war in Ukraine. Since its creation, KleptoCapture has worked with international partners to seize a sanctioned Russian oligarch's \$90 million luxury yacht in Spain, to seize and transport a nearly half-billion-dollar yacht belonging to a sanctioned oligarch from Fiji to San Diego, and to seize millions of dollars associated with sanctioned parties held at multiple U.S. financial institutions.

Bolstering Democratic Reformers

The United States and our partners are committed to bolstering the work of

activists and other reformers working on the front lines of democratic renewal. In the Year of Action, we have increased support to these reformers, giving them additional tools to advance governments and societies that reflect democratic principles, reject corruption, and respect human rights. For example: Empowering Historically Marginalized Groups and Ensuring All Have a Say in Democracy. Domestically, under the Biden-Harris Administration, all U.S. Government Departments and Agencies have developed and released plans to advance racial justice and equity. In June, the State Department announced its first Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice, who leads efforts to protect and advance the human rights of people around the world who belong to marginalized racial and ethnic communities, and to combat systemic racism, discrimination, and xenophobia.

Supporting Activists, Workers, and Reform-Minded Leaders. In September, USAID launched at the UN General Assembly the Democracy Delivers Initiative, which brought together leaders from eight countries experiencing renewed democratic openings with top executives and leaders of major foundations and philanthropies to generate investment and other forms of support. USAID is pairing the Democracy Delivers Initiative with a new Partnerships for Democratic Development program, which will support countries experiencing democratic openings by facilitating locally-led efforts to address key development challenges that can forestall or reverse democratic consolidation.

Defending Democracy in Europe and Eurasia. On March 24, in response to Russia's brutal and unjustified further invasion of Ukraine, President Biden

announced the European Democratic Resilience Initiative (EDRI) to bolster democratic resilience, enhance anti-corruption defenses, and defend human rights in Ukraine and the region. Working with Congress, the U.S. Government will harness EDRI to provide at least \$320 million in new funding to address immediate and medium-term needs in Europe and Eurasia. Additionally, the United States has provided \$8.5 billion in direct budgetary support to the Government of Ukraine since Russia launched its full-scale invasion in February. These funds, provided by the United States through the World Bank, allow the Ukrainian government to keep gas and electricity flowing to hospitals, schools, and other critical infrastructure; provide humanitarian supplies to citizens, and continue to pay the salaries of civil servants, healthcare workers and teachers – and ensure that democracy continues to deliver for its people.

Advancing Technology for Democracy

Together with like-minded partners and allies, the U.S. Government is investing in efforts to stem the tide of digital authoritarianism, promote a positive vision for the Internet and emerging technologies, and connect billions around the world to values-driven, rights-respecting digital technologies and infrastructure. For example:

Advancing an Open, Interoperable, Reliable, and Secure Internet. In April, the United States and 60 partner countries joined in the Declaration for the Future of the Internet, a commitment to advance a positive vision for the Internet and digital technologies. In June, the Department of State announced that the United States will chair the Freedom Online Coalition in 2023. The United States and partners also launched the Global Partnership for Action on

Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse, where the founding partner governments of Australia, Denmark, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, and the United Kingdom agreed upon a roadmap to better prioritize, understand, prevent, and address the growing scourge of technology-facilitated gender-based violence. Since its March launch, the governments of Kenya, New Zealand, Canada, and Chile have joined the Global Partnership.

Expanding Digital Democracy Programming. Under the new Advancing Digital Democracy Initiative, USAID has stood up pilot activities in Zambia and Serbia that will work to ensure technology is used to advance — and not undermine — democracy. In Zambia, USAID is seizing new opportunities made possible by the country's democratic opening to build resilience to the misuse of technology across legal and regulatory frameworks. In Serbia, the Initiative is supporting a network of activists, local technology stakeholders, universities, and public officials to advocate for data protection and privacy laws and regulations that protect Serbians' rights.

Advancing Democracy-Affirming Technologies. In July, the United States and United Kingdom initiated Privacy Enhancing Technology Prize Challenges as part of a series of International Grand Challenges on Democracy-Affirming Technologies, which were launched by the United States at the first Summit for Democracy. The challenges will spur innovation in privacy technologies that can transform financial crime prevention and boost pandemic response capabilities, all while safeguarding sensitive data. Additionally, in June, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern kicked off the first venture day of the Tech4Democracy Global Entrepreneurship Challenge, which was launched by

IE University in Madrid in partnership with the Department of State. This challenge focuses on identifying entrepreneurs that build and advance democracy-affirming technologies in a series of venture days around the world. Finally, the United States continues to build out the Multilateral Surge and Sustain Fund for Anti-Censorship Technology in light of surging global demand for technology that can protect users and circumvent authoritarian governments' online censorship efforts.

Defending Rights in a Digital Age. In October, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy released the Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights. The Blueprint is a set of five principles and associated practices to help guide the design, use, and deployment of automated systems to protect the rights of the American public in the age of artificial intelligence, and includes concrete steps which governments, companies, communities, and others can take in order to build these key protections into policy, practice, or technological design to ensure automated systems are aligned with democratic values and protect civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy. The United States is also taking steps to counter digital transnational repression and risks posed by foreign commercial spyware.

Improving Tech Platform Accountability. In September, the White House announced its Principles for Enhancing Competition and Tech Platform Accountability, which outline U.S. Government priorities concerning promoting competition in the technology sector, providing robust protections for Americans' privacy, reforming Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, and increasing transparency about technology platforms' algorithms and content moderation decisions, among others.

Defending Free and Fair Elections and Inclusive Political Processes

Around the world, exercising the right to vote in free and fair elections faces growing challenges, including electoral manipulation and violence, cyber-attacks, disinformation, and barriers to political participation by systematically marginalized populations. During the Year of Action, the U.S. Government has advanced new approaches to addressing critical long-standing and emerging threats to electoral integrity globally. For example:

Strengthening Electoral Integrity. USAID has convened 25 international organizations, inter-governmental organizations, development agencies, and election networks to develop the Global Network for Securing Election Integrity, which will officially launch by the end of 2022. At home, President Biden's FY 2023 Budget proposes the largest-ever investment in our Nation's election infrastructure. This includes \$10 billion to enable the state and local jurisdictions that administer elections to make long-term investments in election equipment, systems, and personnel. The Budget also proposes \$5 billion to fund an expansion of Postal Service delivery capacity in underserved areas and support for vote-by-mail, including making ballots postage-free and reducing the cost of other election-related mail for jurisdictions and voters.

Promoting Access to Voting. As the Biden-Harris administration continues to fight for essential federal voting rights legislation, including the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, federal agencies are implementing President Biden's Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting, leveraging the resources of the federal government to provide information about the election process and increased access to voter

registration opportunities. In May, the Department of the Interior made history as the first National Voter Registration Act-designated federal agency when it accepted states' request to help register Americans to vote when they sign up for other government services. Subsequently, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced a similar partnership with three states.

Countering Hate-Fueled Violence: In September, President Biden held the United We Stand Summit at the White House, where the federal government and other sectors of society committed to actions to counter the hate-fueled violence that threatens our public safety and democracy. Ongoing work under the United We Stand Summit includes long-term efforts to address toxic polarization and foster unity.

2. China

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China's Xi Jinping Signals He'll Press On With Fight Against Corruption Battle against graft still 'far from over,'

(Bloomberg | Dec 7, 2022)

Chinese President Xi Jinping indicated that an anti-graft campaign that has already ensnared 4.7 million officials will continue well into his third term, focusing over the coming year on areas where power, money and resources are concentrated.

A meeting of the 24-member Politburo chaired by Xi on Tuesday determined that the country has achieved an “overwhelming victory” in its battle against corruption but the work is still “far from over,” according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

The government will keep its stringent measures against graft in place “in the long run” to prevent any rebound of the problem, Xinhua reported on Wednesday.

The comments by the Politburo reinforce the high priority Xi has placed on addressing corruption during his decade in power. The effort wins public support for cleaning up government after years of rampant graft while also eliminating potential rivals to Xi and his allies.

The latest pledge comes after a twice-a-decade Communist Party congress in October allowed Xi to pack top decision-making bodies like the Politburo with

his supporters, while sidelining figures such as Hu Chunhua, once seen as a potential successor. China did away with presidential term limits in 2018, paving the way for Xi to lead the world's No. 2 economy indefinitely.

Earlier this year, the country's top anti-graft agency busted what it called a "political clique" led by former police official Sun Lijun, who was sentenced to what amounts to life in prison for taking 646 million yuan (\$91 million) worth of bribes and other crimes.

Sun was accused of "cultivating personal power and forming an interest group," phrasing that could be read as a sign they posed a threat to Xi's power. Two other people associated with the group — former justice minister Fu Zhenghua and Wang Like, who was a senior official in Jiangsu — were similarly given suspended death sentences.

Xi's campaign has also targeted the \$58 trillion financial system and the semiconductor industry, as the leadership became frustrated with failures in efforts to boost self-reliance in high-end chip production. Last month, central bank governor Fan Yifei, 58, was placed under investigation, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, the Communist Party's top graft buster said.

The drive has also breached the private sector, with the Communist Party expelling an official over corruption charges relating to the "disorderly expansion of capital." Zhou Jiangyong, former party secretary of Hangzhou — the base of Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. — was ousted in January for serious violations of official duties, taking bribes and abuse of power, according to the CCDI.

3. E. U.

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2022 EU corruption scandal exposes lobbying loopholes

(DW | Dec 13, 2022)

The political institutions of the European Union are in turmoil with a cash-for-favors corruption scandal engulfing the European Parliament with the potential to spread.

Former European Parliament Vice President Eva Kaili is one of four people in detention, charged by Belgian prosecutors with "participation in a criminal organisation, money laundering and corruption."

She has already been booted out of her political parties and affiliations and stripped of her vice presidency, accused of accepting bribes from Qatar.

Gleaming speeches about the Gulf state in the European Parliament, voting in favor of files related to Qatar in committees on which she didn't sit, and attending numerous unregistered events in the country are the alleged links between Kaili and Doha.

In a statement published online, the Mission of Qatar to the EU called the allegations "baseless and gravely misinformed."

While official details of the scope and depth of the police investigation in Belgium remain scant, the activities of members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and other EU bodies will now come under increased scrutiny.

EU experts are questioning whether the existing anti-corruption measures in place suffice.

"When there is highly complex and entrenched policymaking like there is in the EU, it becomes untransparent, and then it makes it easier to buy influence," Jacob Kirkegaard from the German Marshall Fund told DW News. "You can buy a vice president of the European Parliament for €600k! Are they really that cheap?"

"This is clearly a woman who wasn't afraid of being caught. It indicates that whatever measures and processes the European Parliament has, have no deterrent effect," he said. "Even stupid people, if they were afraid, wouldn't do it."

Transparency measures So what measures are in place at the EU?

It has a database in which NGOs, lobby groups, consultants, charities, and other organizations wanting to influence lawmaking must register.

All those listed in the Transparency Register are required to declare their budgets and any donations above €10,000 (ca. \$10,545) for NGOs.

Significantly, Fighting Impunity, the NGO at the heart of the current corruption scandal, is not on the register.

Its president, former Italian MEP Pier Antonio Panzeri, is also in detention. And Eva Kaili's partner Francesco Giorgi works there too. Furthermore, Fighting Impunity shares an office with the Italian non-profit No Peace Without Justice, whose director was also arrested in this case.

"With the loopholes in the system, this was bound to happen," Paul Varakas, president of the Society of European Affairs Professionals (SEAP), which helps lobbyists apply to the Transparency Register, told DW.

In 2021, the European Parliament refused to apply the principle of "strict conditionality" attached to the Transparency Register, which would have forced them only to meet with registered lobbyists.

Senior officials in the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, are already bound to this principle and only allowed to meet with lobbyists listed on the register.

But the MEPS argued that it would infringe on their "freedom of

mandate" and rejected moves to force them to disclose all their meetings.

"That's how they [Fighting Impunity] were doing it," said Varakas. "You had an NGO influencing decision-making without having to disclose anything. They were invited by an MEP who didn't have to declare. It was simple for them."

SEAP and other organizations are now saying that while mandatory registration (and disclosure requirements attached to it) might be burdensome for smaller actors, such as NGOs, the pressure on the European Parliament to fall in line on the "conditionality principle" will be immense.

In the wake of the scandal, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has repeated a call for an ethics body to be set up that would oversee all EU institutions.

"We have one with very clear rules internally in the European Commission and I think it is time to discuss where we could establish this overall for all EU institutions," she said at a press conference in Brussels on Monday.

Diplomatic immunity for MEPs

MEPs also enjoy diplomatic immunity to carry out their political work without fear of prosecution.

According to a Protocol on privileges and immunities of the EU, they cannot "be subject to any form of inquiry, detention or legal proceedings in respect of opinions expressed or votes cast by them in the performance of their duties."

Immunity is not valid, however, "when a Member is found in the act of committing an offence and shall not prevent the European Parliament from exercising its right to waive the immunity of one of its Members."

If necessary, MEPs have the right to request their immunity is upheld, but the press office of the European Parliament said no request of that nature had been made by Eva Kaili.

Prosecuting judges in Belgium have also not asked for the immunity to be lifted.

"If there is no request for immunity to be withdrawn then that suggests that the judge has concluded that the criteria have been met for immunity to no longer apply," said European Parliament spokesperson Jaume Duch in Strasbourg.

In the past, immunity requests have been made in regard to extradition requests. But because the crimes are alleged to have been committed in Belgium, extradition would not apply in this case.

4. FIFA Worldcup Qatar 2022

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Football corruption and the remarkable road to Qatar's World Cup

(Guardians Oct 8, 2022)

With the surrounding noise on human rights, worker deaths, image laundering and the rest, it is easy to forget what Qatar 2022 is really all about, the founding message at the very heart of this global festival of football. Which is, of course, corruption.

Committee members living high on someone else's hog. Development money that never developed. The fat, wet handshake wrapped up in a TV rights deal. It is time, six weeks away from FIFA's winter World Cup, to consider the base note of this thing.

An important disclaimer is required at this point. There is no chain of evidence linking Qatar itself to any kind of corruption in securing its World Cup bid success. Qatar's supreme delivery committee has always strongly denied any such involvement. And rightly so. A two-year inquiry by FIFA's ethics committee found no significant concerns.

In fact both Qatar and Russia could reasonably claim to have been unfortunate, assailed on all sides by other people's corruption, and forced to operate within this nexus of bad optics and sour grapes. Even if, by

happy coincidence, the decisions made within that environment have also happened to align with both their interests.

Either way Qatar 2022 remains an event tainted at its outset by a great gushing spume of individual corruption among FIFA's executive committee and decisive actors outside the voting room; almost all of whom were physically present at the moment of delivery on 2 December 2010 in the Messe hall at FIFA House, Zurich, arguably the single most significant day in the history of modern football, and an occasion future historians will surely mine for colour detail while fleshing out their study of the carbon wars of the early 21st century.

There is still a sense of double-take about that extraordinary tableau, with its cast of rainmakers, nabobs and grifters. FIFA's head office is strangely unrepentant in its aesthetic. What kind of organisation actively chooses matt black walls and tinted glass, a bug-proof basement boardroom, the unshakable sense of being, above all a lair?

On Bid Decision Day the whole building was gripped with a sense of event glamour, buzzing with rumour and counter-rumour, talk of votes cast and promises made. The announcement deadline slipped glamorously. Eventually the world's media found themselves gathered in a zombie-horde crush, vetted and ticketed, ready to swarm into the remaining seats in the glamour-studded auditorium.

From the start, stuff was happening in there. The first shiver of English

unease came with the sight of David Beckham up near the front shrugging and looking sad.

Ironically so, some might say, given Beckham's own subsequent deep personal interest in the success of Gulf-region football: his Saudi tie-in, his one-man relaunch as a multimillion-dollar ambassador for Qatar itself (every man has his price. Beckham is at least pretty specific about his).

There was the extraordinary sight of Sepp Blatter on stage, a gleaming golden super-smooth statuette of a man, pawing and stroking and fondling the trophy itself, seeming to know even in that moment that this was also a kind of goodbye.

And around the room it was a case of here-comes-everyone. Here is Bill Clinton looking politely baffled. Here is Roman Abramovich, not the kind of person to enter an envelope-opening competition when there's a chance the contents might come as a surprise. Here are Morgan Freeman, Seb Coe and Elle Macpherson. Here is Chuck Blazer, the mobility scooter Pimpernel.

Post-announcement, Boris Johnson could be seen mooching about muttering sadly about deals behind the deals. Most striking was the appearance of Vladimir Putin, strolling out all alone into the centre of the stage, there to preen and shrug and drawl his answers to the gathered sports press. Putin had previously said he would not attend "so

that they can make a decision without any pressure from the outside”, presumably an example of his famously sly sense of humour.

What actually happened here? The basic outline is startling enough. In the years since, 16 of 22 voting exco members present in that hall have been implicated in or investigated over some form of alleged corruption or bad practice.

The most significant event was the 2015 arrests in Switzerland and subsequent investigation. The FBI produced a 47-count indictment against assorted footballing figures. Julio Grondona, 26 years a FIFA executive, died in 2014 and has been safely loaded with blame by his old pals. Jack Warner, 79 years old and still going about his business in Trinidad, remains the key suspect for the US Department of Justice.

Brazilian investigators ran Ricardo Teixeira to ground, but never found the string to unravel the rest of it. The Garcia report provided eye-popping detail, not least around the English bid team and its dealings with Warner.

Other developments have arrived outside of this, through leaks, media digging and opaque FIFA investigations. With a lot of this there is a sense of clearing house, FIFA using the misdeeds of the past to weed its own executive. At times it feels like piecing together the world’s most corrupt jigsaw puzzle, but always missing the central segment.

And in the end it is hard not to come back to that room. Ultimately the chief players behind this double World Cup bid spectacular were Blatter, Michel Platini, Vitali Mutko, Russia's bid supremo, Mohammed bin Hammam, the Qatari president of the Asian Football Confederation, Nicolas Sarkozy, the president of France, and Putin.

Fast forward to the current timeline and Blatter, Platini and Bin Hammam have been banned from football. Sarkozy has a criminal conviction for dubious election practice. Mutko has been implicated in a state-sponsored doping scandal. Putin is waging a land war in Europe.

And yet none of this has ever really touched Qatar, which remains essentially blameless, a spectator to the arraignment of others. There have been some spectacular accusations towards connected persons.

In 2011 the Sunday Times printed a story alleging that Bin Hammam had made payments to football power brokers totalling \$5m via 10 slush funds.

Bin Hammam, it was said, hosted backslapping junkets where cash was handed out. He allegedly paid \$1.6m into a bank account controlled by Warner, half of it before the vote for the World Cup. He allegedly paid the Somali Football Federation \$100,000 through his daughter's bank

account. And why not though, eh? Bin Hammam has been banned for life from football, then unbanned, then rebanned. He's seen as a hero in Doha. He's 73 years old. He's not talking to anyone any time soon.

In 2019 there were allegations FIFA had benefited from a \$400m rights deal with Al Jazeera, Qatar's state TV station, offered just 21 days before the bid decision, with an extra \$100m top-up should Qatar succeed. FIFA denies this was material to any decision made. The Garcia report revealed that Sandro Rosell, who had connected dealings with Qatar, had made a payment of €1.45m to the bank account of Teixeira's then 10-year-old daughter. Rosell had previously sent an email to his Qatari contact promising: "This means I'll be able to invest this money for my interest, that I hope, finally, will be yours." What does that mean? Does it mean anything?

There was mention of lucrative friendly fixtures, of Qatari gas deals, of projects funded, of Michel D'Hooghe, Belgian exco member, being "compromised" by the offer of a job for his son at Qatar's Aspire Academy

Plus there is the other major set piece of that bid period, the lunch at the Élysée Palace in November 2010 when Sarkozy, France's president, hosted Platini and the emir of Qatar. Platini switched his vote to Qatar around this time. He denies the two events were connected. The emir's government would later buy out Paris Saint-Germain, increase its stake in

a French media group and buy up the rights to French football. France has enjoyed productive commercial relations with Qatar ever since. Everybody present denies there is any connection.

At the end of which there is a feeling that all we really have is the echo of something, the froth at the fringes. For all the trauma, the cost, the heat in that room in Zurich, the cutting loose of a generation of leathery old grandees has failed to derail the machine at its centre.

Gianni Infantino was being investigated by the Swiss authorities over possible criminal misconduct, although this process seems to have stalled and gone cold. He lives in Qatar now, closer to the real business at hand. For the Game, For The World, as the governing body's own motto states. FIFA will end up with the usual \$3bn World Cup profit.

Qatar will get to stage its spectacular, to present a face to the global cameras. As ever, it is only the players that change.

5. Mongolia

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Mongolian anti-corruption authority says former leader under investigation in coal theft case 35 people charged, according to anti-corruption authority

(Burç Eruygur | Dec 14, 2022)

Mongolia's anti-corruption authority announced Tuesday that former President Khaltmaagiin Battulga is being investigated in a coal theft case that began in the wake of a large-scale demonstration in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, early last week.

The Independent Authority Against Corruption of Mongolia (IAAC) announced at a news conference that Battulga, in addition to 15 other notable figures, including former ministers and current MPs, were contacted and courts will decide their crimes.

“The following officials participated in coal mining, transportation, and procurement of goods and services with state-owned assets,” said M. Davaatogtoh, deputy head of the investigative department of the IAAC.

Davaatogtoh said a joint investigation related to coal mining and its sale and transportation was underway by the General Intelligence Agency of Mongolia and the National Police Agency.

“Investigations are underway in a total of 22 cases. During the investigation, 47 objects were searched, 15 people were arrested, and 10 people were detained,” he said. “In order to speed up the investigation, a sub-working group was also established at the IAAC. So far, 35 people have been charged.”

Separately, the IAAC published information about transactions conducted by state-owned companies, Erdenes-Tavantolgoi JSC and Tavantolgoi Railway, which amount to 633 contracts between Jan. 1, 2018, and Dec. 1, 2022.

“[Eleven] cases of investigation and 7 cases of investigation are currently being opened and investigations are being carried out in connection with the problems of giving advantage to others, taking bribes, and getting rich without reason during the construction of the coal transportation railway,” according to a statement.

Mongolia’s Cabinet of Ministers decided Monday to place Tavantolgoy Railway under direct control of the government and introduce a “special regime” for the company for six months.

Several hundred people braved freezing temperatures in Ulaanbaatar to protest corruption in the coal industry and the country’s ailing economy, with some trying to storm government buildings Dec. 4.

6. Uzbekistan



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On the path to the normative and institutional development of the fight against corruption

(Akmal Burkhanov, Director of the Anti-corruption Agency (ACA)
of the Republic of Uzbekistan | Dec 14, 2022)

The fight against corruption has also become a priority area of state policy in Uzbekistan. This can be seen in the conceptual regulatory acts adopted in recent years in this area, on the example of administrative reforms aimed at preventing corruption.

The fact that the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed the Law "On combating corruption" in the first days of taking office became the first important step in the formation of the state policy in combating corruption in Uzbekistan.

I. During the past 5 years, more than 80 normative legal documents aimed at putting an end to corruption in all spheres of state and society construction, including more than 10 normative legal documents regulating the field of combating corruption, were adopted.

The Decree of the President "On measures to create an environment of intolerant attitude against corruption, to reduce corruption factors in state

and community management, and to expand public participation” became another important conceptual document aimed at early prevention of corruption. The laws "On the openness of activities of the state power and the state governing bodies" and "On public control", as well as the Resolution "On additional measures to ensure active participation of citizens in the budget process" made it possible to assess every action of all categories of officials among the general public and the people.

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to ensure the transparency of the activities of state bodies and organizations, as well as effective implementation of public control", was adopted as a logical continuation of the reforms implemented in the sphere. The Decree approved the list of information that every state body and organization should publicly announce.

The Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures to introduce a system for rating the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts” serves to introduce openness to public administration, further strengthen systematic work in information openness for general use, transparency and quality of the information by international requirements. A system for rating the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts was introduced following this Resolution.

It should be noted that the recently adopted Decree of the President "On measures to increase the level of openness of the activities of state bodies and organizations and introduce the evaluation system” is starting a new era in the improvement of the openness policy in the country.

By the decree, the Anti-Corruption Agency will create an annual transparency index of state bodies and organizations and publicly announce it through the electronic platform "eanticor.uz" and media.

II. The activity of newly established Institutional structures in the system is also of great importance in the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts. In 2019, the Resolution of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the establishment of the Committee on Combating Corruption, Judicial and Legal Issues" was adopted. A Committee on Combating Corruption and Judicial Affairs was established in the Senate of the Oliy Majlis in the same year.

The Anti-Corruption Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of June 29, 2020 "On additional measures on improvement of the anti-corruption in the Republic of Uzbekistan". The Republican Inter-Departmental Commission for Combating Corruption and its regional inter-departmental commissions were reorganized into the National Anti-Corruption Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its regional councils.

Among the key tasks entrusted in them are the implementation of a systemic parliamentary control over the execution of anti-corruption legislation and state programs, hearing reports from officials of government agencies engaged in anti-corruption activities. The key tasks also include the development of measures for eliminating legal loopholes

that allow and create conditions for corruption in the current legislation, studying the generally recognized principles and norms of international law in the field of combating corruption and, based on it, the development of proposals for further improvement of the current legislation.

Public Service Development Agency was established under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan by the Decree of the Head of the state "On measures to radically improve the personnel policy and civil service system in the Republic of Uzbekistan" and the Resolution "On measures to organize the activities of the State Public Service Development Agency under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan".

According to the Decree, it was determined that recruitment to public service shall be carried out based on open independent competition, fair evaluation of candidates in the activities related to recruitment to the civil service and career advancement of personnel, application of the principle of meritocracy aimed at choosing the most worthy among them.

Training of potential personnel in the fight against corruption has become one of the priority tasks of the Academy of the General Prosecutor's Office. In 2019, the Academy of the General Prosecutor's Office opened a special master's course in "Combating Corruption". The Academy has established close cooperation with about 60 prestigious organizations in the world, and carries out training based on a completely new system, combining theory and practice.

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of December 7, 2020 "On measures to ensure the genuine independence of judges and increase the effectiveness of preventing corruption in the judiciary" provided for the establishment of the Judicial Inspectorate for Ensuring Immunity of Judges and Preventing Corruption at the Judicial Inspectorate for Ensure Immunity of Judges, which contributes to the prevention and elimination of corruption in the most crucial areas, as well as the timely identification of corruption factors.

Decisions made by the National Anti-Corruption Council intensifies the process of conducting surveys among various segments of the population. In 2021, several more social surveys were conducted. In particular, UNICEF, together with Ureport, conducted a survey on the topic "Are young people involved in the fight against corruption? ". The survey involved 16,189 young people and 81 percent of them expressed their readiness to report on acts of corruption, while 39 percent do not consider bribery to be corruption.

In December 2021, the "Ijtimoiy Fikr" (Public Opinion) Center conducted a survey on the state policy in the field of combating corruption and the activities of the Anti-Corruption Agency. The results demonstrated that 82 percent of our population perceive corruption as an urgent problem, while 43 percent of respondents said that the fight against corruption in Uzbekistan is implementing quite successfully.

The Anti-Corruption Agency together with relevant agencies and departments conducted a study within the framework of the project “Creating the first anti- corruption laboratories in Uzbekistan to study corruption risks at the stage of enrolling children in schools”:

The survey covered 114 schools in Uzbekistan, involving parents of primary school students, primary school teachers and school directors. Following the results, a number of recommendations were developed. Those include the development of urgent measures to ensure transparency in school admission with the engagement of parents, the general public and specialists (psychologists, pediatricians, speech pathologists).

In addition, it was recommended to implement an Open Data electronic system to ensure maximum transparency of activities of the Ministry of Public Education, its structural divisions, and even the processes in each preschool institution (admission, educational process, assessment (examination), reporting).

Another example, the Anti-Corruption Agency conducted an anonymous survey- on the activities of law enforcement agencies in regions with a difficult crime situation from February 16 to April 6. 2021. The survey identified the presence of corruption risks in law enforcement agencies. The Agency developed proposals and recommendations to eliminate them. It is important that the analysis of this kind of sociological studies serves to improve the activities of the Agency and the anti-corruption policy in

general. Particular attention is paid to improving the legal awareness and legal culture of the population in combating corruption.

Thus, in December 2021, as part of the Anti-Corruption Week timed to the International Anti-Corruption Day on December 9, about 500 events of various levels and formats were organized, including forums and conferences, competitions, promotions and flash mobs, round tables, trainings and talks shows with the active involvement of representatives of the general public, especially young people.

The Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan in cooperation with the UNODC Office in Central Asia organized trainings on the topic 'Prevention of corruption in the public education system' and anti-corruption classes for schoolchildren. In 2020, anti-corruption classes were organized in schools in three districts of three regions, and in 2021 in the whole country'.

Open Data Challenge 2021 Hackathon included a special category - The Fight Against Corruption. The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education held the republican contests "The Best Anti-Corruption Textbook" and "The Best Anti-Corruption Teaching and Methodological Manual" among the academic staff of higher educational institutions. Moreover, in order to systematically inform the general public on the ongoing reforms in the field of combating corruption, Uzbekistan Anti-Corruption Digest online magazine has been created and published monthly in Uzbek, Russian and English.

For to actively involve and support NGOs in cultivating in society intolerant attitude towards corruption, as well as raising their awareness, 11 (25 percent) representatives of NGOs have been included in the composition of the National Anti- Corruption Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In 2021. the "Openness and Transparency in Uzbekistan" Analytical Center started operating. It is the first independent public organization studying corruption and transparency. The Center focuses on supporting the formation of an intolerant attitude towards corruption in society and the improvement of mechanisms for openness, transparency and accountability in government.

This year, the Anti-Corruption Agency with other government agencies in cooperation with UNDP announced a Joint Contest "Involving Civil Society Institutions in the Development and Implementation of Innovations in Preventing and Combating Corruption". Similar projects aimed at increasing the social activity and legal culture of the population are important because they are an excellent incentive to be indifferent to such vices as fraud, bribery and extortion in society. In fact, the most effective and rational measure to effectively combat all forms of corruption is the intolerance.

II. Global Conference News

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1 G20 BALI LEADERS' DECLARATION

Bali, Indonesia | 15-16 November 2022

1. Fourteen years ago, the Leaders of the G20 met for the first time, facing the most severe financial crisis in our generation. We recognized, as large global economies, that collectively we carry responsibilities and that our cooperation was necessary to global economic recovery, to tackle global challenges, and lay a foundation for strong, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth. We designated the G20 the premier forum for global economic cooperation, and today we reaffirm our commitment to cooperate as we, once again, address serious global economic challenges.
2. We met in Bali on 15-16 November 2022, at a time of unparalleled multidimensional crises. We have experienced the devastation brought by the Covid-19 pandemic, and other challenges including climate change, which has caused economic downturn, increased poverty, slowed global recovery, and hindered the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. This year, we have also witnessed the war in Ukraine further adversely impact the global economy. There was a discussion on the issue. We reiterated our national positions as expressed in other fora, including the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly, which, in Resolution No. ES-11/1 dated 2 March 2022, as adopted by majority vote (141 votes for, 5 against, 35 abstentions, 12 absent) deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and demands its complete and unconditional withdrawal from the territory of Ukraine.

Most members strongly condemned the war in Ukraine and stressed it is causing immense human suffering and exacerbating existing fragilities in the global economy - constraining growth, increasing inflation, disrupting supply chains, heightening energy and food insecurity, and elevating financial stability risks. There were other views and different assessments of the situation and sanctions. Recognizing that the G20 is not the forum to resolve security issues, we acknowledge that security issues can have significant consequences for the global economy.

4. It is essential to uphold international law and the multilateral system that safeguards peace and stability. This includes defending all the Purposes and Principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and adhering to international humanitarian law, including the protection of civilians and infrastructure in armed conflicts. The use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible. The peaceful resolution of conflicts, efforts to address crises, as well as diplomacy and dialogue, are vital. Today's era must not be of war.
5. At today's critical moment for the global economy, it is essential that the G20 undertakes tangible, precise, swift and necessary actions, using all available policy tools, to address common challenges, including through international macro policy cooperation and concrete collaborations. In doing so, we remain committed to support developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing states, in responding to these global challenges and achieving the SDGs. In line with the Indonesian G20 Presidency theme — Recover Together, Recover Stronger — we will take coordinated actions to advance an agenda for a strong, inclusive and resilient global recovery and sustainable development that delivers jobs and growth. With the above in mind, we will:

- Stay agile and flexible in our macro-economic policy responses and cooperation. We will make public investments and structural reforms, promote private investments, and strengthen multilateral trade and resilience of global supply chains, to support long-term growth, sustainable and inclusive, green and just transitions. We will ensure long-term fiscal sustainability, with our central banks committed to achieving price stability.
- Protect macroeconomic and financial stability and remain committed to using all available tools to mitigate downside risks, noting the steps taken since the Global Financial Crisis to strengthen financial resilience and promote sustainable finance and capital flows.
- Take action to promote food and energy security and support stability of markets, providing temporary and targeted support to cushion the impact of price increases, strengthening dialogue between producers and consumers, and increasing trade and investments for long-term food and energy security needs, resilient and sustainable food, fertilizer and energy systems.
- Unlock further investments for low- and middle-income and other developing countries, through a greater variety of innovative financing sources and instruments, including to catalyze private investment, to support the achievement of the SDGs. We ask the Multilateral Development Banks to bring forward actions to mobilize and provide additional financing within their mandates, to support achievement of the SDGs including through sustainable development and infrastructure investments, and responding to global challenges.
- Recommit to accelerate achievement of the SDGs, achieving prosperity for all through sustainable development.

6. We are deeply concerned by the challenges to global food security exacerbated by current conflicts and tensions. We therefore commit to taking urgent actions to save lives, prevent hunger and malnutrition, particularly to address the vulnerabilities of developing countries, and call for an accelerated transformation towards sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems and supply chains. We commit to protect the most vulnerable from hunger by using all available tools to address the global food crisis. We will take further coordinated actions to address food security challenges including price surges and shortage of food commodities and fertilizers globally. Recalling the G20 efforts such as the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, we welcome global, regional, and national initiatives in support of food security, and in particular note the progress made by the UN Secretary General's Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, as well as the World Bank Group's and IMF's food security responses. We emphasize the importance of building on the G20 Matera Declaration, working together to sustainably produce and distribute food, ensure that food systems better contribute to adaptation and mitigation to climate change, and halting and reversing biodiversity loss, diversify food sources, promote nutritious food for all, strengthen global, regional, and local food value chains, and accelerate efforts to reduce food loss and waste. We will also implement the One Health approach, intensify research on food science and technology, and improve stakeholders' capacity along the food supply chains, particularly women, youth, smallholder, and marginal farmers as well as fishers.
7. We support the international efforts to keep food supply chains functioning under challenging circumstances. We are committed to addressing food insecurity by ensuring accessibility, affordability, and sustainability of food

and food products for those in needs, particularly in developing countries and least developed countries. We reiterate our support for open, transparent, inclusive, predictable, and non-discriminatory, rules-based agricultural trade based on WTO rules. We highlight the importance of enhancing market predictability, minimizing distortions, increasing business confidence, and allowing agriculture and food trade to flow smoothly. We reaffirm the need to update global agricultural food trade rules and to facilitate trade in agricultural and food products, as well as the importance of not imposing export prohibitions or restrictions on food and fertilizers in a manner inconsistent with relevant WTO provisions. We are committed to sustained supply, in part based on local food sources, as well as diversified production of food and fertilizers to support the most vulnerable from the disruptions in food trade supply chain. We will avoid adversely impacting food security deliberately. We commit to facilitate humanitarian supplies for ensuring access to food in emergency situations and call on UN Member States and all relevant stakeholders with available resources to provide in-kind donations and resources to support countries most affected by the food crisis, as required and based on assessed needs by governments of affected countries. We continue to support the carve out of humanitarian activities from sanctions and call on all nations to support this aim, including through current efforts at the UN. We will continue to closely monitor the state of global food security and nutrition.

8. We welcome the Türkiye and UN-brokered two Istanbul Agreements signed on 22 July 2022 and consisting of the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports (Black Sea Grain Initiative) and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on Promoting Russian Food Products and Fertilizers to the World Markets, on the unimpeded deliveries of grain, foodstuffs, and fertilizers/inputs

from Ukraine and the Russian Federation, to ease tension and prevent global food insecurity and hunger in developing countries. We emphasize the importance of their full, timely and continued implementation by all relevant stakeholders, as well as the UN Secretary-General's calls for continuation of these efforts by the Parties. In this context we highlight other efforts that ensure the flow of agri-food goods such as the EU Solidarity Lanes and the Russian donations of fertilizers facilitated by the World Food Programme. Moreover, we take note of various initiatives addressing food insecurity such as the Arab Coordination Group initiative.

9. We are committed to supporting the adoption of innovative practices and technologies, including digital innovation in agriculture and food systems to enhance productivity and sustainability in harmony with nature and promote farmers and fishers' livelihoods and increase income, in particular smallholders by increasing efficiency, and equal access to food supply chains. We will promote responsible investments in agricultural research and science and evidence-based approaches. We will continue to strengthen the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) as an early warning tool, to enhance food and fertilizer/inputs market transparency, reduce market uncertainties, and support coordinated policy responses for food security and nutrition, through the sharing of reliable and timely data and information.
10. We ask the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Bank Group (WBG) to share with us the results of their mapping exercises on food insecurity, which will be consolidated in the future with inputs from technical experts and other relevant international organizations, and will provide a systemic analysis of responses to address food security. This will identify any major gaps in global responses; examine food and nutrition variables and funding; examine the supply and demand

of fertilizers; build on the G20 Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS); and identify any medium-term issues that require further technical and systemic analysis. The FAO and WBG will report back by the 2023 Spring Meetings.

11. We meet at a time of climate and energy crises, compounded by geopolitical challenges. We are experiencing volatility in energy prices and markets and shortage/disruptions to energy supply. We underline the urgency to rapidly transform and diversify energy systems, advance energy security and resilience and markets stability, by accelerating and ensuring clean, sustainable, just, affordable, and inclusive energy transitions and flow of sustainable investments. We stress the importance of ensuring that global energy demand is matched by affordable energy supplies. We reiterate our commitment to achieve global net zero greenhouse gas emissions/carbon neutrality by or around mid-century, while taking into account the latest scientific developments and different national circumstances. We call for continued support for developing countries, especially in the most vulnerable countries, in terms of providing access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy, capacity building, affordable latest technology within the public domain, mutually beneficial technology cooperation and financing mitigation actions in the energy sector.
12. We reaffirm our commitment to achieve SDG 7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. Recognising our leadership role, and guided by the Bali Compact and the Bali Energy Transition Roadmap, we are committed to finding solutions to achieve energy markets stability, transparency, and affordability. We will accelerate transitions and achieve our climate objectives by strengthening energy supply chain and energy security, and diversifying energy mixes and

systems. We will rapidly scale up the deployment of zero and low emission power generation, including renewable energy resources, and measures to enhance energy efficiency, abatement technologies as well as removal technologies, taking into account national circumstances. We recognise the importance to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation, including renewable energy, as well as energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phasedown of unabated coal power, in line with national circumstances and recognising the need for support towards just transitions. We will increase our efforts to implement the commitment made in 2009 in Pittsburgh to phase-out and rationalize, over the medium term, inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption and commit to achieve this objective, while providing targeted support for the poorest and the most vulnerable. We will strengthen international cooperation as well as relevant producer-consumer dialogues on securing energy affordability and accessibility by limiting volatility in energy prices and scaling up clean, safe, inclusive, and sustainable technologies, including developing regional energy interconnectivity. We are committed to promote investment in sustainable infrastructure and industry, as well as innovative technologies and a wide range of fiscal, market and regulatory mechanisms to support clean energy transitions, including, as appropriate, the use of carbon pricing and non-pricing mechanisms and incentives, while providing targeted support for the poorest and the most vulnerable.

13. Mindful of our leadership role, we reaffirm our steadfast commitments, in pursuit of the objective of UNFCCC, to tackle climate change by strengthening the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and its temperature goal, reflecting equity and the principle of common

but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in light of different national circumstances. We will play our part fully in implementing the Glasgow Climate Pact and the relevant outcomes of previous COPs and CMAs, in particular COP 26, including the call to revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in our NDCs, as necessary to align with the Paris Agreement. In this regard, we welcome enhanced climate actions resulting from the new or updated NDCs and invite parties to urgently scale up mitigation and adaptation ambition and means of implementation as well as make progress on loss and damage at COP 27 which is being held in Africa. Noting the IPCC assessments that the impact of climate change will be much lower at a temperature increase of 1.5°C compared with 2°C, we resolve to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. This will require meaningful and effective actions and commitment by all countries, taking into account different approaches, through the development of clear national pathways that align long-term ambition with short and medium-term goals, and with international cooperation and support, including finance and technology, and sustainable and responsible consumption and production as critical enablers, in the context of sustainable development.

14. We welcome the progress to date towards achieving a Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). We urge all parties and countries to finalize and adopt the GBF with the view of realizing of 2050 Vision of “Living in harmony with Nature” at the second part of COP15 CBD as a strong framework of action and accountability for halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030 and, as appropriate, to update National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans accordingly. We emphasize the importance of achieving and synergizing the objectives of the three Rio Conventions. We stress the need for clear and measurable goals and targets for biodiversity and means of implementation and accountability.

We commit to strengthen actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and call on CBD Parties to adopt an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework at COP-15 in Montreal. We urge for increased resource mobilization from all sources, including from countries and entities, to provide new and additional financial resources for the implementation of the GBF, once it is negotiated, including to help enable and support developing country parties, and for aligning private and public financial flows with biodiversity objectives. We will scale up efforts to combat biodiversity loss, deforestation, desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as restoring degraded land to achieve land degradation neutrality by 2030, and in support of the G20's ambition to reduce land degradation by 50% by 2040 on a voluntary basis. We recognize the effort made by a number of countries to ensure that at least 30% of global land and at least 30% of the global ocean and seas are conserved or protected by 2030 and we will help to make progress towards this objective in accordance with national circumstances. We commit to reduce environmental impacts by changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns as well as to enhance environmentally sound waste management including by preventing illegal cross-border traffic of waste.

15. We will step up efforts to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, including through Nature-based Solutions and Ecosystem-based Approaches, support climate mitigation and adaptation, enhance environmental conservation and protection, sustainable use and restoration, responding to natural disasters, reduce ecosystem degradation, enhance ecosystem services and to address issues affecting the marine and coastal environment. We will further promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability and work together on scientific knowledge-sharing, raising awareness, and capacity building, particularly to

advance on the ocean-based climate action. We are committed to ending illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. We welcome the WTO multilateral Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and encourage its rapid entry into force. In line with the UNEA Resolution 5/14, we are committed to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, with the ambition of completing the work by the end of 2024. We highlight the progress made and call on participating delegations to achieve an ambitious and balanced agreement without delay on an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, as called for in the UNGA Resolution 69/292. We also acknowledge that ecosystems, including forests, seagrasses, coral reefs, wetland ecosystems in all their diversity, including peatlands and mangrove, support climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

16. We acknowledge the urgent need to strengthen policies and mobilize financing, from all sources in a predictable, adequate and timely manner to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation including significantly increasing support for developing countries. We recall and further urge developed countries to fulfil their commitments to deliver on the goal of jointly mobilizing USD 100 billion per year urgently by 2020 and through to 2025 in the context of meaningful mitigation action and transparency on implementation. We also support continued deliberations on an ambitious new collective quantified goal of climate finance from a floor of USD 100 billion per year to support developing countries, that helps in fulfilling the objective of the UNFCCC and implementation of the Paris Agreement. We emphasize the importance of transparency in the implementation of the pledges. We also recall the Glasgow Climate Pact urging developed countries to at least double their

collective provision of climate finance for adaptation to developing countries, from 2019 levels, by 2025, in the context of achieving a balance between mitigation and adaptation in the provision of scaled up financial resource, recalling Article 9 of the Paris Agreement.

17. In the context of strengthening global efforts to reach the objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the goals of the Paris Agreement, as well as implementing the COP26 commitments, we reiterate that our policy mix toward carbon neutrality and net zero should include a full range of fiscal, market and regulatory mechanisms including, as appropriate, the use of carbon pricing and non-pricing mechanisms and incentives, and phase out and rationalize, over the medium term, inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption and commit to achieve this objective, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable, and in line with national circumstances. We acknowledge the macro-economic risks stemming from climate change and will continue discussions on the costs and benefits of different transitions.
18. We are committed to take actions in support of orderly, just and affordable transitions to achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in line with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement as well as with the convention on Biological Diversity. We welcome the progress made across the G20, international organizations, other international networks and initiatives, and the private sector in addressing the priorities of the G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap, which is voluntary and flexible in nature, and call for further efforts to advance the Roadmap's recommended actions that will scale up sustainability financing. We welcome the establishment of the Sustainable Finance Working Group's online dashboard and repository of relevant work, to

illustrate ongoing and future progress made on the Roadmap, and encourage members to contribute on a voluntary basis, taking country circumstances into consideration. We endorse the 2022 G20 Sustainable Finance Report which articulates practical and voluntary recommendations for jurisdictions and relevant stakeholders in developing transition finance frameworks, improving the credibility of financial institutions' net zero commitments and scaling up sustainable finance instruments, with a focus on improving accessibility and affordability. We also welcome the valuable discussion during the Presidency's Forum on policy levers that incentivize financing and investment to support the transition.

19. We remain committed to promoting a healthy and sustainable recovery which builds towards achieving and sustaining Universal Health Coverage under the SDGs. While the COVID-19 pandemic is not over, the World Health Organization (WHO) has recently declared monkeypox as another Public Health Emergency International Concern (PHEIC), reinforcing that international health threats are ever present and that the G20 and broader global community must come together to improve our collective prevention, preparedness and response capabilities. We reaffirm the importance of strengthening of national health systems by putting people at the center of preparedness and equip them to respond effectively. We emphasize the need for equitable access to pandemic medical countermeasures, and welcome the efforts of ACT-A, and note that the results of the ACT-A external evaluations can be useful lessons for future discussions. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen global health governance, with the leading and coordination role of WHO and support from other international organizations. We support the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body(INB) that will draft and negotiate a legally binding instrument that should contain both legally binding and non-legally binding elements to strengthen pandemic PPR and the working

group on the International Health Regulations that will consider amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) mindful that the decision will be made by World Health Assembly.

20. The G20 High Level Independent Panel, as well as the WHO and World Bank have estimated there is an annual pandemic PPR financing gap of approximately USD 10 billion. As initiated by the Saudi Arabian G20 Presidency, the Italian G20 Presidency and continued by the Indonesian G20 Presidency, we welcome the provision of additional financial resources, to assist in financing critical gaps in implementing IHR (2005) and increase PPR capacities. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of a new Financial Intermediary Fund for Pandemic PPR (the ‘Pandemic Fund’) hosted by the World Bank. It aims to address critical pandemic PPR gaps and build capacity at national, regional and global levels, bring additionality in financial resources for pandemic PPR, catalyze complementary investments, and facilitate a coordinated and coherent approach to pandemic PPR strengthening. We welcome the Pandemic Fund’s inclusive membership and representation from low- and middle-income countries, civil society organizations and donors, and acknowledge the WHO’s technical expertise and central coordination role in this endeavor, which reflects its leadership role in the global health architecture. We appreciate the work of the Secretariat hosted by the World Bank, with the WHO as technical lead and as chair of the Technical Advisory Panel. We look forward to the launch of the Pandemic Fund’s first call for proposals as soon as possible. We commit to increase the capacity of developing countries for pandemic PPR through the Pandemic Fund, and look forward to the stocktaking review of the Pandemic Fund at the end of its first year to draw on lessons learned and incorporate any changes needed to ensure it is operating in accordance with its governing documents and effective at filling critical PPR gaps,

and that it continues to have a central coordination role for the WHO, maintains a strong connection to the G20, and is inclusive of the perspectives of low- and middle-income countries and additional non-G20 partners in its decision making. We commend the pledges by current donors, amounting to over USD 1.4 billion, and encourage additional voluntary pledges. We call on new donors to join the Pandemic Fund, as they are able to.

21. It is essential to continue collaboration between Finance and Health Ministries for pandemic PPR. We extend the mandate of the Task Force, and ask the Secretariat of the Task Force to work with the Task Force co-chairs, the incoming Indian G20 Presidency, the G20 Troika, and G20 members to agree on a Task Force workplan for 2023, taking into account a multi-year planning horizon. We thank the WHO for continuing to host the Secretariat, with support from the World Bank. In 2023 the Task Force will continue to be co-chaired by Indonesia and Italy, representing advanced and emerging economy perspectives, and will continue to draw on expertise of the WHO, International Financial Institutions and other relevant organizations, with the support of the 2023 Indian G20 Presidency. To expand the voice of lower income countries we invite key regional organizations to join the Task Force meetings, as appropriate. We will work closely with the WHO to ensure the Task Force continues to complement the global pandemic PPR architecture and there is no further duplication and fragmentation of the global health governance system. Delivering on the mandate from the G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration, in 2023 the Task Force will continue developing coordination arrangements between Finance and Health Ministries, and share best practices and experiences from past finance-health coordination in order to develop joint responses to pandemics, as appropriate. The Task Force will undertake work to better understand economic risks and

vulnerabilities from pandemics, and how to mitigate them, with a focus on finance and health coordination in response to new pandemics, considering country-specific circumstances and recognizing the importance of further work on resource mobilization. We ask the Task Force to report back to Finance and Health Ministers in 2023 on its progress.

22. We recognize that the extensive COVID-19 immunization is a global public good and we will advance our effort to ensure timely, equitable and universal access to safe, affordable, quality and effective vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics (VTDs). Acknowledging the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration on the WTO Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics and the Ministerial Decision on the TRIPS Agreement at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12), we note that, no later than six months from the date of the Ministerial Decision on the TRIPS Agreement, WTO members will decide on its extension to cover the production and supply of COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics. We remain committed to embedding a multisectoral One Health approach and enhancing global surveillance, including genomic surveillance, in order to detect pathogens and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) that may threaten human health. To enable global pathogen surveillance as part of our commitment to implement the IHR (2005), we encourage sharing of pathogen data in a timely manner on shared and trusted platforms in collaboration with WHO. We encourage sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of pathogens consistent with applicable national laws.
23. We recognize the need for strengthening local and regional health product manufacturing capacities and cooperation as well as sustainable global and regional research and development networks to facilitate better access to VTDs globally, especially in developing countries, and underscore the

importance of public-private partnership, and technology transfer and knowledge sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms. We support the WHO mRNA Vaccine Technology Transfer hub as well as all the spokes in all regions of the world with the objective of sharing technology and technical know-how on voluntary and mutually agreed terms. We welcome joint research and joint production of vaccines, including enhanced cooperation among developing countries. We acknowledge the importance of shared technical standards and verification methods, under the framework of the IHR (2005), to facilitate seamless international travel, interoperability, and recognizing digital solutions and non-digital solutions, including proof of vaccinations. We support continued international dialogue and collaboration on the establishment of trusted global digital health networks as part of the efforts to strengthen prevention and response to future pandemics, that should capitalize and build on the success of the existing standards and digital COVID-19 certificates.

24. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the transformation of the digital ecosystem and digital economy. We recognize the importance of digital transformation in reaching the SDGs. We acknowledge that affordable and high-quality digital connectivity is essential for digital inclusion and digital transformation, while a resilient, safe and secure online environment is necessary to enhance confidence and trust in the digital economy. We recognize the importance of policies to create an enabling, inclusive, open, fair and non-discriminatory digital economy that fosters the application of new technologies, allows businesses and entrepreneurs to thrive, and protects and empowers consumers, while addressing the challenges, related to digital divides, privacy, data protection, intellectual property rights, and online safety. We acknowledge the importance to counter disinformation campaigns, cyber threats, online abuse, and ensuring security in

connectivity infrastructure. We remain committed to further enable data free flow with trust and promote cross-border data flows. We will advance a more inclusive, human-centric, empowering, and sustainable digital transformation. We also reaffirm the role of data for development, economic growth and social well-being.

25. We encourage international collaboration to further develop digital skills and digital literacy to harness the positive impacts of digital transformation, especially for women, girls, and people in vulnerable situations, and further support efforts to develop reliable skills and literacy. We note the increasing demands for a workforce adept at utilizing emerging technologies, education and training, reskilling and upskilling to meet such demands. We also seek to increase connectivity by accelerating high capacity and secure infrastructure and provide more accessible and affordable resources and tools, while also improve the digital literacy skills of learners, teachers, school leaders, and other educational professional to ensure universal access to education, accelerate learning recovery and promote lifelong learning.
26. We found digital technology becomes the key for recovery and empowerment across various sectors, including in building a resilient and sustainable food system and agriculture, creating sustainable and decent jobs and human capacity development, supporting inclusive trade, industrialization and investment, increasing productivity, as well as opening up the potential of the future economy, especially for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and start-ups. It is essential to ensure that no one is left behind in our effort to digitally transform our society, by involving all stakeholders, including the youth, women, business sector, audit institution, parliaments, scientists, and labours.

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27. We support continued implementation of the G20 Roadmap for Enhancing Cross-Border Payments, including the future delivery of the initial estimates for key performance indicators and 2022 Progress Report that sets out priorities for the next stage of work. We encourage central banks, other public authorities and the payments industry to continue to work collaboratively on these important initiatives to enhance cross-border payments. We welcome the report by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (CPMI) on interlinking payment systems and the role of Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that was presented in a joint workshop by the Indonesian G20 Presidency in coordination with the BIS CPMI and the BIS Innovation Hub (BISIH) on cross-border payments and interoperability at the Festival Ekonomi Keuangan Digital Indonesia (FEKDI) 2022. We also welcome the joint report by the BIS CPMI, BISIH, IMF, and World Bank on options for access to and interoperability of Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) for cross-border payments.
28. We endorse the G20 Financial Inclusion Framework on Harnessing Digitalization to Increase Productivity and Foster a Sustainable and Inclusive Economy for Women, Youth and MSMEs or Yogyakarta Financial Inclusion Framework guided by the G20 2020 Financial Inclusion Action Plan. To address digitalization and sustainable finance developments, and support financial inclusion and well-being, we endorse the updated G20/OECD High-Level Principles on Financial Consumer Protection and welcome the updated G20/OECD High-Level Principles on SME Financing.
29. To support our collective ambition to recover together, recover stronger, we commit to well-calibrated, well-planned, and well-communicated policies to support sustainable recovery, with due consideration to

country-specific circumstances. We commit to mitigate scarring effects to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. We will stay agile and flexible in our fiscal policy response, standing ready to adjust to the changing circumstances as needed. Temporary and targeted measures to help sustain the purchasing power of the most vulnerable and cushion the impact of commodity price increases, including energy and food prices, should be well designed to avoid adding to high inflationary pressures. We will continue to enhance macro policy cooperation, preserve financial stability and long-term fiscal sustainability, and safeguard against downside risks and negative spillovers. Macroprudential policies need to remain vigilant to guard against rising systemic risks as financial conditions tighten. Recognizing that many currencies have moved significantly this year with increased volatility, we reaffirm the commitments made on exchange rates by our Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in April 2021. We also reiterate the importance of global cooperation and express our appreciation to the Indonesian G20 Presidency for its efforts to maintain an effective system of multilateralism through the G20.

30. G20 central banks are strongly committed to achieving price stability, in line with their respective mandates. To that end, they are closely monitoring the impact of price pressures on inflation expectations and will continue to appropriately calibrate the pace of monetary policy tightening in a data-dependent and clearly communicated manner, ensuring that inflation expectations remain well anchored, while being mindful to safeguard the recovery and limit cross-country spillovers. Central bank independence is crucial to achieving these goals and buttressing monetary policy credibility.

31. We are committed to the swift implementation of the OECD/G20

two-pillar international tax package. We welcome the progress on Pillar One. We also welcome progress on Pillar Two Global Anti-Base Erosion (GloBE) Model Rules, which pave the way for consistent implementation at a global level as a common approach, and we look forward to the completion of the GloBE Implementation Framework. We call on the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) to finalize Pillar One, including remaining issues and by signing the Multilateral Convention in the first half of 2023, and to complete the negotiations of the Subject to Tax Rule (STTR) under Pillar Two that would allow the development of a Multilateral Instrument for its implementation. We will work to strengthen the tax and development agenda in light of the July 2022 G20 Ministerial Symposium on Tax and Development, and we note the G20/OECD Roadmap on Developing Countries and International Tax. We support the progress made on implementing internationally agreed tax transparency standards, including regional efforts and welcome the signing of the Asia Initiative Bali Declaration in July 2022. We also welcome the Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework and the amendments to the Common Reporting Standard, both of which we consider to be integral additions to the global standards for automatic exchange of information. We call on the OECD to conclude the work on implementation packages, including possible timelines, and invite the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes to build on its commitment and monitoring processes to ensure widespread implementation of both packages by relevant jurisdictions.

32. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the long-term financial resilience of the international financial architecture, including by promoting sustainable capital flows, and developing local currency capital markets. We welcome the IMF's revised Institutional View on Liberalization and

Management of Capital Flows and look forward to continued discussions with international organizations on the coherent implementation of international frameworks for the use of capital flow management measures, while being mindful of their original purpose. We look forward to further progress by the IMF in operationalizing the Integrated Policy Framework and welcome the report by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) on Macro-financial stability frameworks. We welcome continued exploration of how CBDCs could potentially be designed to facilitate cross-border payments, while preserving the stability and integrity of the international monetary and financial system. We welcome the successful completion of the G20 TechSprint 2022, a joint initiative with the BISIH, which has contributed to the debate on the most practical and feasible solutions to implement CBDCs. We reiterate our commitment to maintaining a strong and effective Global Financial Safety Net with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF at its center. We remain committed to revisiting the adequacy of quotas and will continue the process of IMF governance reform under the 16th General Review of Quotas, including a new quota formula as a guide, by 15 December 2023. We take note on the continuation of discussion of the IMF surcharge policy.

33. We are committed to support all vulnerable countries to recover together, recover stronger. We welcome pledges amounting to USD 81.6 billion through the voluntary channelling of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) or equivalent contributions, and call for further pledges from all willing and able countries to meet the total global ambition of USD 100 billion of voluntary contributions for countries most in need. We welcome the operationalization of the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) to help eligible low-income countries, small states and vulnerable middle-income countries address longer-term structural challenges that pose macroeconomic

risks, including those stemming from pandemics and climate change. We welcome the voluntary contributions to the RST and call for additional pledges and timely contributions to it and to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT), especially for subsidy resources, to ensure a broad pool of contributors to meet funding needs. We are open to explore viable options for countries to voluntarily channel SDRs through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), while respecting national legal frameworks and the need to preserve the reserve assets status of SDRs. We will explore ways, including through balance sheet optimization measures, and other potential avenues, to maximize MDBs' development impact. We welcome early deliberations and urge MDBs to continue to discuss options for implementing the recommendations of the G20 Independent Review of MDBs' Capital Adequacy Frameworks within their own governance frameworks, and to deliver an update in Spring 2023. This will inform the ongoing development of a roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations, while safeguarding MDBs' long-term financial sustainability, robust credit ratings and preferred creditor status. We acknowledge the concluding report on the 2020 Shareholding Review of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and look forward to the 2025 Shareholding Review. At this challenging juncture, we reiterate our commitment to step up our efforts to implement the Common Framework for Debt Treatment beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) in a predictable, timely, orderly and coordinated manner. We welcome progress in this regard, including the provision of financing assurances for Zambia. We welcome the conclusion of the debt treatment to Chad and encourage the timely conclusion of the debt treatment for Zambia by early 2023. Noting that one member has divergent views on debt issues in paragraph 33, and emphasized the importance of debt treatment by multilateral creditors like MDBs. We also encourage the conclusion of the debt treatment for Ethiopia under an

IMF-supported program. We are concerned about the deteriorating debt situation in some vulnerable middle-income countries. This could be addressed by multilateral coordination that involves all official and private bilateral creditors to take swift action to respond to their requests for debt treatments. We stress the importance for private creditors and other official bilateral creditors to commit to providing debt treatments on terms at least as favourable to ensure fair burden sharing in line with the comparability of treatment principle. We reaffirm the importance of joint efforts by all actors, including private creditors, to continue working toward enhancing debt transparency. We welcome the efforts of private sector lenders who have already contributed data to the joint Institute of International Finance (IIF)/OECD Data Repository Portal, and continue to encourage others to also contribute on a voluntary basis.

34. In the face of a more challenging global economic and financial outlook, we underline the need to reinforce global financial system resilience and ask the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and IMF to continue their monitoring efforts. We commit to sustaining global financial stability, including through continued coordination of policy measures and implementation of international standards. We welcome the FSB's final report on financial sector exit strategies and scarring effects of COVID-19 and its conclusions regarding financial stability issues by the end of 2022. We strongly support global policy actions to increase resilience, in particular against cross-border spillovers, including by addressing the identified structural vulnerabilities in non-bank financial intermediation (NBFI) from a systemic perspective. To this end, we welcome the FSB's NBFI progress report with policy proposals to address systemic risk in NBFI, including in open-ended funds. We welcome the report by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS), the BIS Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (CPMI), and the

International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) on the review of margining practices. We support taking forward the implementation of the FSB updated Roadmap for addressing climate-related financial risks which complements the G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap. Globally consistent data are needed in order to effectively address climate-related financial risks. We look forward to the finalization of standards by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) in support of globally consistent, comparable and reliable climate-related financial disclosures, and its work beyond climate, and we welcome the efforts to achieve interoperability across disclosure frameworks. We welcome the FSB progress report on achieving consistent and comparable climate-related financial disclosures and the final report on supervisory and regulatory approaches to climate-related risks. We welcome the report by the FSB and the Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) on climate-scenario analysis by jurisdictions.

35. We welcome ongoing work by the FSB and international standard setters to ensure that the crypto-assets ecosystem, including so-called stablecoins, is closely monitored and subject to robust regulation, supervision, and oversight to mitigate potential risks to financial stability. We welcome the FSB's proposed approach for establishing a comprehensive international framework for the regulation of crypto-asset activities based on the principle of 'same activity, same risk, same regulation'. We welcome the FSB consultative report on the review of its high-level recommendations for the regulation, supervision and oversight of "global stablecoin" arrangements. We also welcome the FSB consultation report on promoting international consistency of regulatory and supervisory approaches to crypto-assets activities and markets. It is critical to build public awareness of risks, to strengthen regulatory outcomes and to support a level playing field, while harnessing the benefits of innovation. We welcome the final

guidance by the BIS CPMI and IOSCO which confirms that the Principles for Financial Market Infrastructures apply to systematically important stablecoin arrangements. We welcome the FSB consultative report on achieving greater convergence in cyber incidents reporting, and look forward to the final report. We welcome the results of the second phase of the Data Gaps Initiative (DGI-2) and will continue to work with partners in addressing the identified remaining challenges. We welcome the workplan on the new Data Gaps Initiative (DGI) prepared by the IMF, FSB and the Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics (IAG) in collaboration with participating members. We ask the IMF, the FSB and the IAG to begin work on filling these data gaps and report back on progress in the second half of 2023, noting that the targets are ambitious and delivery will need to take into account national statistical capacities, priorities, and country circumstances as well as avoiding overlap and duplication at international level. We welcome the progress of work on the review of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, including the second report and the ongoing public consultation, and look forward to further updates on the review.

36. We reaffirm that the rules-based, non-discriminatory, free, fair, open, inclusive, equitable, sustainable and transparent multilateral trading system (MTS), with the WTO at its core, is indispensable to advancing our shared objectives of inclusive growth, innovation, job creation and sustainable development in an open and interconnected world as well as to supporting the resilience and recovery of a global economy under strain due to COVID-19 and global supply chain disruption. We agree that reforming the WTO is key in strengthening trust in the MTS. We will continue to ensure a level playing field and fair competition to foster a favourable trade and investment environment for all. We note the importance of the contribution of the MTS to promote the UN 2030

Agenda and its SDGs. Commending the successful conclusion of the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12), we commit to seize and advance the positive momentum by engaging in active, constructive, pragmatic, and focused discussions on WTO reform to improve all its functions, including reform of the dispute settlement mechanism, on the path leading to the MC13.

37. We are committed to reinforce international trade and investment cooperation to address supply chain issues and avoid trade disruptions. We believe that trade and climate/environmental policies should be mutually supportive and WTO consistent and contribute to the objectives of sustainable development. We also recognise the importance of inclusive international cooperation on digital trade. We recognize the need to promote value addition through sustainable and inclusive investment in highly productive sectors such as downstream manufacturing, digital trade, and services, and to foster linkages between foreign investors and local enterprises particularly MSMEs. We note the initiative from the Indonesian Presidency to hold discussions on policy coherence between trade, investment and industry, and to continue addressing industry-related issues in the broader G20 process, as appropriate.
38. We recognize the importance of revitalizing infrastructure investment in a sustainable, inclusive, accessible, and affordable way. We endorse the voluntary and non-binding G20/GI Hub Framework on How to Best Leverage Private Sector Participation to Scale Up Sustainable Infrastructure Investment which will consider country circumstances, and which will complement investment from other sources, including public investment and finance provided by MDBs. We note the Outcome Document from the 2022 G20 Infrastructure Investors Dialogue. To enhance social inclusion and address subnational disparities, we endorse the G20-OECD

Policy Toolkit on Mobilizing Funding and Financing for Inclusive and Quality Infrastructure Investment in Regions and Cities, prepared with the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). We note the Preliminary Findings Report on Gender Inclusive Approaches in Private Participation in Infrastructure in promoting gender considerations during the infrastructure lifecycle and look forward to the final report. We endorse the InfraTracker 2.0 which will enable both the public and private sectors towards transformative infrastructure investment post-COVID-19, by providing insights into long-term infrastructure strategies and plans. To narrow the digital divide, we endorse the G20 Compendium of Case Studies on Digital Infrastructure Finance: Issues, Practices and Innovations. We endorse the Quality Infrastructure Investment (QII) Indicators and associated guidance note, developed for the G20, which are voluntary and non-binding and consider country circumstances, and we look forward to further discussions on how the QII indicators can be applied. We welcome progress made towards developing a possible new governance model for the Global Infrastructure Hub (GI Hub) and ask that principles to guide the process be finalized as soon as possible.

39. The rise of automation and digital technologies are reshaping the world of work, presenting both opportunities and challenges. Adding to the situation, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing inequalities in many countries and continues to disproportionately affect women, youth, older workers, persons with disabilities and migrant workers. We underline that it remains our utmost priority to mitigate the adverse impact of the current trends on the labour market, reduce inequalities while responding effectively to the opportunities that automation and digital technologies present and promote gender equality. We remain committed to the promotion of decent work and the elimination of child and forced labour.

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40. We reaffirm our commitment to support the full inclusion of migrants, including migrant workers, refugees, in our recovery efforts, in the spirit of international cooperation and in line with national policies, legislation, and circumstances, ensuring full respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms regardless of their migration status. We also recognize the importance of preventing irregular migration flows and the smuggling of migrants, as part of a comprehensive approach for safe, orderly and regular migration, while responding to humanitarian needs and the root causes of displacement. We support strengthening cooperation between countries of origin, transit, and destination. We will continue the dialogue on migration and forced displacement in future Presidencies.
41. We remain committed to a human-centred, inclusive, fair, sustainable approach that leads to greater social justice, decent work, and social protection for all. We will continue our work to integrate persons with disabilities, women, and youth across sectors and levels in pursuit of an inclusive labour market. We are resolved to promote sustainable development of human capacity, labour markets, and productivity, including through community-based vocational education and training, to advance job creation through entrepreneurship, to empower MSMEs, and to accelerate our efforts to foster and adapt labour protection for all workers, including those in the informal sector. We will maximize our approach to skills development to respond effectively to the needs of the labour market, with the involvement of social partners. We will accelerate progress towards the Antalya Youth Goal, as well as universal social protection for all by 2030.
42. We are deeply concerned that multidimensional crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as lack of fiscal space and unequal access to finance and technology, are posing significant challenges towards

realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in a timely manner. We will demonstrate leadership and take collective actions to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and accelerate the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 and address developmental challenges by reinvigorating a more inclusive multilateralism and reform aimed at implementing the 2030 Agenda.

43. In this regard, we will strengthen inclusive and sustainable recovery and build resilience in all developing countries, including SIDS in the Pacific and Caribbean and LDCs, through ambitious and concrete actions. We also reiterate our continued support to Africa, including through the G20 Compact with Africa and the G20 Initiative on Supporting Industrialization in Africa and LDCs. We will focus on MSMEs, adaptive social protection, green economy and blue economy. We recognise the need for partnership to promote mutually beneficial technology cooperation and share good practice, as well as the need for inclusive and quality infrastructure investment for stronger recovery and resilience. We underscore the need to address the financing gap towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda, through enhancing innovative financing mechanisms, including blended finance, while noting the importance of transparency and mutual accountability. We take note of initiatives such as the Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure and the Global Blended Finance Alliance, and welcome the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. We look forward to the success of the SDGs Summit in 2023.
44. Access to education is a human right and a pivotal tool for inclusive and sustainable economic recovery. We welcome the outcome of the Transforming Education Summit. We will act in solidarity in particular with developing countries to rebuild more resilient, tech-enabled,

accessible, and effective education systems. We will empower relevant actors within and beyond G20 to remove barriers to education, improve teaching and learning environments, and support transitions within and across all stages of education, with emphasis on women and girls. We also underscore the importance of learners' well-being in their preparation for work and meaningful participation and contribution to more equitable, inclusive and sustainable society. We reaffirm the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and our commitment to SDG4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and training. We are committed to promoting lifelong learning at all levels amidst the changing nature of work and encourage partnership in this regard.

45. We acknowledge the importance of research and innovation in sustainable resource utilization in various sectors, especially in the midst of health, climate, food and energy crises. We welcome research and innovation collaboration for the conservation of biodiversity and its use to support the sustainable development including green and blue economy. We also promote inclusive collaborations to further research and innovation, as well as promoting researchers' international mobility.
46. As women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises, we reaffirm our commitment to put gender equality and women's empowerment at the core of our efforts for an inclusive recovery and sustainable development. We commit to implement the G20 Roadmap Towards and Beyond the Brisbane Goal foster financial inclusion and access to digital technologies, including to address the unequal distribution in paid and unpaid care and domestic work, with a focus on closing the gender pay gap. We commit to the elimination of gender-based violence, the enhancement of social, health, care and educational services, and the overcoming of gender stereotypes.

We will continue to advance women's and girls' equal access to inclusive and quality education, including participations in STEM education, women entrepreneurship through MSMEs, and women's and girls' access in leadership positions. We will promote quality of life for women in rural areas and women with disabilities. We welcome the work that has been done by the EMPOWER Alliance and its engagement with the G20, and support the future convening of G20 Ministerial Conference on Women's Empowerment.

47. We reaffirm the important role of tourism for global recovery, and the community-based approach for rebuilding a more human-centred, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient tourism sector. We acknowledge the vital importance of strengthening safe international mobility and connectivity and seamless post-Covid travel to enable tourism recovery. We further recognize that creative economy, which involve knowledge-based economy, human creativity, and intellectual property rights, contributes to improving the resiliency of tourism local communities and MSMEs through human capital development, digital transformation, innovation, public-private partnerships, sustainable preservation of natural and cultural heritage, and innovative financing while retaining their significant commercial and cultural values.
48. We reaffirm the role of culture as an enabler and driver for sustainable development with intrinsic value beyond its social and economic benefits. We are committed to develop policies that draw on cultural diversity as a resource for sustainable living and promote an inclusive and equitable ecosystem at all levels that values the contribution of those working in the culture, arts and heritage sectors. We will respect, protect and preserve the cultural heritage of our peoples, including local communities and indigenous peoples, as applicable. We support public incentives and

sustainable investments from the private sector to strengthen the cultural economy. We will safeguard cultural heritage as well as fighting illicit trafficking of cultural property and promoting restitution to its rightful owner/countries of origin, in accordance with the relevant UNESCO Conventions and national laws.

49. **We will continue to lead by example through strengthening and implementing our obligations and commitments to anti-corruption efforts including through legally binding instruments, while renewing our commitment to zero tolerance for corruption. We emphasize the importance of transparency and accountability for both public and private sector as a crucial part of a collective recovery effort. We underscore the important role of auditing as well as public participation and anti-corruption education in preventing and tackling any form of corruption. We recall our commitments and call on all countries to criminalise bribery, including bribery of foreign public officials, and effectively prevent, combat, detect, investigate, prosecute and sanction bribery. We will further work to strengthen international cooperation and legal frameworks to combat economic crimes including corruption related to organized crime and money laundering, including, on a voluntary basis, through existing networks and initiatives such as GloBE and the G20 Denial of Entry Experts Network. We will share information on our actions towards criminalising foreign bribery and enforcing foreign bribery legislation in line with Article 16 of UNCAC, and look forward to enlarging participation to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention, as appropriate. We reaffirm our commitment to deny safe haven to corruption offenders and their assets, in accordance to domestic laws. We also recognize the importance of mitigating corruption risk in all sectors. We will further strengthen our engagement with and promote active participation by stakeholders such as academia, civil society, media and the private sector, including to advance a culture of integrity.**

50. We recognize the need for the international community to step up their efforts to effectively combat money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation financing. We reaffirm our commitment to delivering the strategic priorities of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its FATF Style Regional Bodies (FSRBs) to lead global action to respond to these threats. We welcome the initiative by the FATF to promote implementation of international standards on virtual assets, in particular the “travel rule”, and transparency of beneficial ownership, and acknowledge their role in the fight against systemic corruption and environmental crimes, which gravely impact economies and societies. We support the ongoing work of the FATF to enhance global efforts to seize criminal proceeds and return funds to victims and states in line with domestic frameworks. We encourage all G20 members to strengthen collaboration to adopt and effectively implement the FATF standards.
51. We welcome the Indonesian Presidency’s efforts to compile a wide array of national submissions and international coordinated collaborations from G20 members, invited countries, and regional and international organizations. These have been presented in the “G20 Action for Strong and Inclusive Recovery”, as annexed. We call for further concrete actions to impart greater momentum and impact to the efforts of international community to recover together and recover stronger.
52. We welcome the outcomes of various G20 working groups and Ministerial meetings. We appreciate and thank Indonesia for its Presidency and for successfully hosting the Bali G20 Leaders’ Summit and for its contribution to the G20 process. We look forward to meeting again in India in 2023, in Brazil in 2024 and in South Africa in 2025. We thank international organizations, including the UN and its Specialised Agencies, World Bank

Group, IMF, OECD, Asian Development Bank, ERIA, CEPI, European Investment Bank, GGGI, ICAO, IEA, IEF, IFAD, ILO, IRENA, FAO, FSB, Gavi, Global Fund, IAEA, Islamic Development Bank, ITU, Medicine Patent Pool, Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll), OPEC, WEF, WFP, WHO, WTO, UNCCD, UNCTAD, UNDESA, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UN Global Pulse, UN Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women, UNWTO and the G20 Engagement Groups (W20, L20, T20, S20, Y20, SAI20, P20, C20, B20, U20) for their valuable inputs and policy recommendations

2 2022 APEC Leaders' Declaration

Bangkok, Thailand | 19 November 2022

We, the Economic Leaders of APEC, met in-person for the first time in four years in Bangkok on 18-19 November 2022. We continue the implementation of the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040, including through the Aotearoa Plan of Action. This year, under the APEC theme “Open. Connect. Balance.”, we advance work through three priorities: to be open to all opportunities, connected in all dimensions, and balanced in all aspects, to advance long-term robust, innovative and inclusive economic growth as well as sustainability objectives in the Asia-Pacific region.

We have been intensifying our efforts in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and mitigating its impact on our people and economies to promote health and wellbeing, as well as improving the overall standard of living for all.

This year, we have also witnessed the war in Ukraine further adversely impact the global economy. There was a discussion on the issue. We reiterated our positions as expressed in other fora, including the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly, which, in Resolution No. ES-11/1 dated 2 March 2022, as adopted by majority vote (141 votes for, 5 against, 35 abstentions, 12 absent) deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and demands its complete and unconditional withdrawal from the territory of Ukraine. Most members strongly condemned the war in Ukraine and stressed it is causing immense human suffering and exacerbating existing fragilities in the global economy – constraining growth, increasing inflation, disrupting supply chains, heightening energy and food

insecurity, and elevating financial stability risks. There were other views and different assessments of the situation and sanctions. Recognising that APEC is not the forum to resolve security issues, we acknowledge that security issues can have significant consequences for the global economy.

We reaffirm our commitment to realise the APEC Putrajaya Vision of an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community by 2040, for the prosperity of all our people and future generations. We will continue to promote efforts to strengthen APEC's leadership and standing as the premier economic forum of the Asia-Pacific, as well as a modern, efficient and effective incubator of ideas. APEC's cooperation will contribute to practical solutions for common challenges and complement global efforts including the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To that end, we resolve to build momentum of the work carried out in 2022 and coordinate our APEC-wide actions on sustainability through the Bangkok Goals on Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy.

Trade and investment play a critical and indispensable role in enhancing the prosperity of our people by assisting with global challenges and can open up opportunities that offer tangible benefits. We underscore the importance of international trade and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in facilitating global economic recovery, growth, prosperity, alleviation of poverty, the welfare of all people, sustainable development, and facilitating cooperation in relation to the protection and conservation of the environment. We reaffirm our determination to deliver a free, open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, inclusive and predictable trade and investment environment. We will continue to work to ensure a level playing field to foster a favourable trade and investment environment and reaffirm our commitment to keep markets open and to address supply chain disruptions.

We welcome the successful outcomes of the Twelfth WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) and are determined to uphold and further strengthen the rules-based multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its core. We look forward to the early and effective implementation of the MC12 outcomes. We will cooperate in the WTO to continue to support its necessary reform to improve all its functions, in order to ensure that it can better address existing and emerging global trade challenges. We commit to working together with a view to achieving meaningful progress by the Thirteenth WTO Ministerial Conference.

Recognising the useful contributions of the Lima Declaration and the Beijing Roadmap on progressing the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) agenda, we welcome the advancement of this agenda this year through a refreshed conversation on the FTAAP in the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. We will continue to build on this momentum towards high quality and comprehensive regional undertakings through the FTAAP Agenda Work Plan. We task officials to report progress in carrying out the Work Plan to the AMM in the following years. At the same time, we will further strengthen our engagement with stakeholders, including the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) and increase public-private sector dialogues. We note with appreciation of ABAC's recommendations in advancing the FTAAP Work Programs. We commend the public and private sector collaboration between the Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) and ABAC, which underscores APEC's emphasis on advancing an inclusive economic development. We will also continue our efforts in capacity building to improve trade negotiation skills of economies.

In order to achieve post-COVID-19 economic recovery, it is our priority to drive growth-focused structural reform that is designed to be inclusive, sustainable, and innovation-friendly. This includes fostering an enabling environment for businesses of all types, particularly micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and start-ups, and collaborating to improve opportunities for them to be competitive, specialised, innovative, and expand into the international markets. We reaffirm our commitment to the Enhanced APEC Agenda for Structural Reform (EAASR) and endeavour to make collective and individual progress, including on the ease of doing business.

Furthermore, we recognise the urgency of enhancing the competitiveness of the services sector, especially travel, transport, and other services that have been hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. We reiterate our commitment to accelerate work in response to the APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap (ASCR) Mid-Term Review, with the aim to fully implement the ASCR by 2025. By increasing APEC's global share of trade in services, we will be able to inject dynamism in our economy and underpin APEC's position as the world's growth engine.

Macroeconomic and structural policies are vital to tackling rising inflation, ushering in sustained economic recovery, and raising living standards in the region. We reaffirm the importance of sustainable financing, capacity building, and technical assistance for innovation and growth as well as for addressing all environmental challenges, including climate change. We will continue to advance digital tools to facilitate economic activities and the provision of public services, including the delivery of assistance and stimulus packages to the people, and to drive financial inclusion.

We commend APEC's work on safe passage, including under the Safe Passage Taskforce. We will further our cooperation to promote safe and seamless cross-border travel within our region as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, including for essential workforces, including air and maritime crew, as well as improve infrastructure and tools, such as the interoperability of vaccination certificates and ensuring the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) is inclusive.

We reaffirm our commitment to enhance an open and interconnected Asia-Pacific region, including through the implementation of the APEC Connectivity Blueprint (2015-2025). We will strengthen physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity as well as take advantage of digital connectivity, and will intensify efforts to promote regional, sub-regional and remote area connectivity through quality infrastructure development and investment. We will promote regenerative tourism that is sustainable, inclusive and resilient, and to connect the entire tourism eco-system. We support efforts to foster open, secure and resilient supply chains, enhance supply chain connectivity and minimise supply chain disruptions. We encourage economies to continue efforts to remove barriers to logistics-related services. We welcome the endorsement of Phase Three of the Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan by the APEC Ministers.

Digital technology and innovation have a greater role to play in advancing inclusive and sustainable growth, improving access to services as well as opportunities to generate income and better the livelihoods of our people, including by encouraging the transition of economic actors from the informal to the formal economy. We will deepen cooperation to bridge digital divides between and within economies, including on facilitating access to digital infrastructure and supporting development of digital skills and digital literacy.

We will cooperate on facilitating the flow of data, and strengthening business and consumer trust in digital transactions.

We recognise the power of digital transformation in facilitating and reducing barriers to trade and unlocking exponential growth, including through nurturing the interoperability of digital systems and tools across the region. We encourage APEC to incubate more cutting-edge and comprehensive cooperation initiatives on digital economy. We will, therefore, accelerate the implementation of the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap (AIDER) to harness new and emerging technologies and the full potential of our society as well as create an enabling, inclusive, open, fair and non-discriminatory digital ecosystem for businesses and consumers.

We affirm our commitment to promote strong, balanced, secure, sustainable and inclusive growth. We recognise that more intensive efforts are needed to address today's challenges, including climate change, extreme weather and natural disasters, food security, and sustainable energy transitions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while ensuring energy resilience, access and security in the region, including by facilitating investments in relevant activities. We recall our commitment to rationalise and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption, while recognising the importance of providing those in need with essential energy services. To reach this goal, we will continue our efforts in an accelerated manner. We will also continue to take concrete steps to implement the APEC Roadmap on Combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and the APEC Roadmap on Marine Debris. To this end, we will expedite efforts to promote economic policies, cooperation and growth which support global actions to comprehensively address all environmental challenges and call for deepened collaboration with stakeholders to make substantive progress.

We endorse the Bangkok Goals on the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy as a comprehensive framework to further APEC's sustainability objectives. We will advance the Bangkok Goals in a bold, responsive and comprehensive manner, building upon existing commitments and workstreams as well as considering new aspirational ones. We also welcome the launch of the APEC BCG Award this year to recognise the achievements of sustainability in the region.

We continue to mobilise our resources to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and reinforce our systems to prevent and prepare for, and respond to future health threats. We are determined to ensure extensive immunisation of our people against COVID-19 as a global public good. It is imperative that we further strengthen the public health workforce, acknowledging their tremendous contributions to protecting our people's lives and safeguarding their health. We should continue our efforts to improve digital solutions and access to health services, and strengthen health systems with a view to achieving universal health coverage.

We pledge to expedite and intensify our work to promote agricultural development, including in rural areas, and promote long-term food security by ensuring our agricultural and food systems are more resilient, productive, innovative and sustainable, strengthening global food supply chains, and reducing food loss and waste. We also reaffirm our commitment to work towards the sustainable resource management of agriculture, forestry and marine resources and fisheries. We welcome the Implementation Plan of the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 as a pathway to achieve sufficient, safe, nutritious, accessible and affordable food for all.

Recognising that long-term economic growth can only be achieved through realising the full potential of our society, we welcome the continued efforts to use a gender mainstreaming approach in relevant APEC processes and accelerate the full implementation of the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019 – 2030). We are committed to building an environment where all, including MSMEs and women, are empowered to access economic opportunities and contribute to and benefit from our economy. Building on these initiatives, we encourage further efforts to expand APEC's work with other groups with untapped economic potential, such as Indigenous Peoples as appropriate, people with disabilities, and those from remote and rural communities, while also promoting the role of youth in advancing inclusive and sustainable economic growth. We will place a special emphasis on human resource development, particularly access to resources, reskilling, upskilling, lifelong learning, and other support, to advance employment and decent work for all as well as enable our workforce to participate and lead in the digital and green economies.

Recognising the detrimental impact of corruption on economic growth and development, we are committed to taking practical actions and a united approach, to jointly fight cross-border corruption and deny safe haven to corruption offenders and their illicit assets.

We reiterate our commitment to expedite the realisation of the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040, including through the Aotearoa Plan of Action. In this endeavour, we will improve APEC's governance and organisational structure, with a view to efficiently and effectively delivering upon all elements of the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 and deepen engagement with stakeholders, including the ABAC, and international and regional organisations.

We welcome the outcomes of the 2022 APEC Ministerial Meeting as well as the 2022 Sectoral Ministerial Meetings for Trade, Tourism, Health, Forestry, Food Security, Women and the Economy, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Finance.

We thank Thailand for hosting APEC in 2022, and we look forward to APEC 2023, which will be hosted by the United States of America. We also welcome Peru and the Republic of Korea as hosts of APEC 2024 and 2025, respectively.

3 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT FOR PILLAR IV OF THE INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK FOR PROSPERITY

Pillar IV - Fair Economy

We, the Ministers of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States, and Viet Nam, recognize that fairness, inclusiveness, transparency, the rule of law, and accountability are essential to improving the investment climate, ensuring shared prosperity, and promoting labor rights based on the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which the Partners have adopted. We seek to level the playing field for businesses and workers within IPEF member countries in the Indo-Pacific region by preventing and combating corruption, curbing tax evasion, and improving domestic resource mobilization. We are committed to working together in an open and inclusive manner, and we recognize the important role that local and other communities, women, and indigenous peoples play in realizing our shared goals.

We intend to effectively implement and accelerate progress on anti-corruption measures and tax initiatives within our domestic legal frameworks, consistent with international agreements and standards applicable to each IPEF member based on its respective commitments. We intend to promote progress towards these shared goals by enhancing cooperation on capacity building, technical assistance, and innovative implementation approaches, recognizing the different levels of development and capacity needs of each country, while strengthening inclusive collaboration and transparency. We intend to focus on:

- **Anti-Corruption.** We intend to effectively implement and accelerate progress on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), standards of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and as applicable, the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention. We aim to pursue provisions and initiatives to: prevent, combat, and sanction domestic and foreign bribery and other related corruption offenses, consistent with the UNCAC; strengthen measures to identify, trace, and recover proceeds of crime; strengthen anti money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism frameworks and their enforcement, including enhancing transparency of real estate transactions and beneficial ownership of legal persons consistent with the FATF standards; promote transparency and integrity in government procurement practices; encourage the private sector to implement internal controls, ethics, and anti-corruption compliance programs; establish and maintain systems for confidential and protected domestic reporting on corruption offenses; promote integrity of public officials; prevent corruption that undermines labor rights based on the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which the Partners have adopted; strengthen transparency and implementation of existing anti-corruption review mechanisms; and promote, within our domestic legal frameworks, the participation of all stakeholders, including individuals and groups outside the public sector, in the fight against corruption, consistent with the UNCAC.
- **Tax.** We intend to pursue provisions and initiatives to reaffirm our support for transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes between tax competent authorities pursuant to existing international agreements and standards; support global and regional efforts to improve tax administration and domestic resource mobilization through technical assistance, capacity building, and more efficient tax administrative practices; and support the ongoing work of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and

Profit Shifting's Two-Pillar Solution to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy, as applicable.

- **Capacity Building and Innovation.** We intend to pursue provisions and initiatives that support capacity building and explore innovative approaches to: technical assistance, sharing of expertise and best practices, development and application of technological innovations, and collaboration with the private sector and other stakeholders.
- **Cooperation, Inclusive Collaboration, and Transparency.** We intend to pursue provisions and initiatives that deepen cooperation and collaboration among our respective authorities, including by regularly sharing information among IPEF Partners on implementation progress toward our shared goals; and by engaging all relevant stakeholders, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, enterprises, business organizations, industry associations, academia, and workers' organizations, to enhance transparency with respect to our shared goals.

We look forward to jointly working to develop these provisions and initiatives as part of our individual and collective efforts to innovate and strengthen our approaches to implementing anti-corruption and tax measures to boost flows of commerce, trade, and investments among our economies and advance a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

④ The 20th International Anti-corruption Conference (IACC)

highlights published by Transparency International

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Washington D.C. | 6 Dec 2022

The 20th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), the world's largest independent global forum to fight corruption, began on 6 dec in Washington D.C. Over the course of the five-day conference, heads of state, business leaders, major international financial institutions, civil society organizations and journalists from over 140 countries assessed how to respond to key global challenges in which corruption plays a central role, including the climate crisis, democratic integrity, global security and the influence of dirty money on our economic and political systems.

The conference featured remarks from other prominent government leaders and anti-corruption experts from around the world (full list here), including but not limited to: Antony Blinken (U.S. Secretary of State), Isabel Saint Malo (Former Vice President of Panama and Minister of Foreign Affairs), David Malpass (President of the World Bank), Frederick Obermaier (Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist), Samantha Power (USAID Administrator), Maia Sandu (President of Moldova), Jake Sullivan (U.S. National Security Advisor to President Biden)

This year's conference focused on the theme "Uprooting Corruption, Defending Democratic Values," and comes at a time in which corruption poses the most serious threat to the global order in decades. The conference provided a timely platform for discussion and action on critical threats, such as the compounding

impacts of global corruption on the human, economic and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic; how corruption slows meaningful progress to address the climate crisis; the rise of kleptocratic and authoritarian regimes; and the weakening of democracies across the world – particularly in the context of the invasion of Ukraine and several humanitarian crisis across the world.

Delia Ferreira Rubio, chair of Transparency International, said:

“From the pandemic to the aggression of kleptocratic regimes and the growing impact of climate change, there is no way to resolve the biggest problems facing the world today without addressing corruption first. This year’s IACC takes place at a critical moment in the fight against corruption as governments around the world renew their focus to anti-corruption efforts – introducing new commitments, launching new anti-money laundering directives and recognizing corruption as a core security concern. This year, the IACC will convene global leaders to determine how we harness the power of this moment to address corruption now and in the future.”

In addition to more than 70 conference panels and plenaries, the IACC hosted the 6th edition of the Films4Transparency (F4T) film festival, which gave a platform for documentary films that exposed corruption cases and pushed for a fairer, more equitable world. Films were shown during the evening throughout the conference. As well, the conference concluded with the Fair Play concert, headlined by emcee Rakim, which featured music from young artists who work to raise awareness of the impact of corruption on their communities.

The IACC 2022 was hosted by the U.S. government and organized by the International Anti-Corruption Conference Council and Transparency International, in partnership with Transparency International U.S.

III. Ombudsman News

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AOA and OIC OA Meetings were held in Baku

(Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Republic of Azerbaijan,
Nov 7 2022)

On the initiative of Sabina Aliyeva, the Human Rights Commissioner of Azerbaijan, meetings of the Asian Ombudsman Association (AOA) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Ombudsmen Association (OIC OA) were held in Azerbaijan.

The next meeting of the AOA Board of Directors was held in Baku on October 18. The event brought together ombudspersons and heads of human rights institutions from Azerbaijan, Japan, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Iran, Pakistan, and Turkiye. Federal Ombudsman of Pakistan, Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi, the Ombudsman of Azerbaijan, Sabina Aliyeva, and AOA Executive Secretary Abdul Moiz Bukhari made speeches at the opening ceremony.

During her speech, S. Aliyeva said that she is happy to host the meeting of foreign ombudsmen in Azerbaijan on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Azerbaijan Ombudsman Institution. In her speech, it was proposed to create working groups on different areas of human rights.

At the meeting, the AOA analyzed its activities since the period after the last meeting in Istanbul and determined the tasks ahead. Azerbaijan also hosted the General meeting of the OIC Ombudsman Association (OIC OA) today.

This OIC OA Meeting was attended by representatives from Azerbaijan, Türkiye, Pakistan, Morocco, Iran, and Indonesia. The Ombudsman of Sudan joined the event using a video conferencing tool.

First, the OIC OA President, the Chief Ombudsman of Türkiye, Şeref Malkoç opened a meeting.

Then, Sabina Aliyeva, the Ombudsman of Azerbaijan, welcomed the participants and informed them about the work of the Institution, and made suggestions on how to improve the activities of the OIC OA. In her speech, the Ombudsman touched on the importance of the training to exchange experience between partner institutions.

During the meeting, ombudspersons shared their positive experiences and exchanged ideas on the development of joint cooperation within the Association. At the meeting, opinions were also exchanged among OIC OA Members regarding the future directions of the institution's activities and organizational issues.

UK | World's first official international Ombudsman review finds UK service is robust and good value

(Office of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO), UK,
Nov 24, 2022)

The national Ombudsman delivers an “efficient, enhanced and effective modern service”, according to the first ever peer review undertaken under the auspices of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI).

The review of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) also found that it provides significant value for stakeholders and has become a much stronger organisation since a previous independent peer review in 2018.

The IOI-led review found the Ombudsman “provides a high-quality service and is a robust institution”. Aspects of training constitute a “leading innovation and goes beyond what other Ombudsman offices internationally both provide and require”.

The panel of independent accredited reviewers highlighted that “the work and role of PHSO is made more challenging for the organisation and less accessible to the public by the lack of much-needed reform of its statutory powers and framework”. They urged the UK government to take action to reform the Ombudsman service to align it with counterparts across Europe.

The panel gave their support for the removal of the MP filter that prevents people from complaining directly to the Ombudsman and the need for a single public services Ombudsman. Both ideas have long been championed by Rob Behrens, the national Ombudsman.

He said, “I am delighted that the growth of the PHSO over the past four years has been commended and that it is recognised as a high quality and modern service. I also welcome the areas highlighted for improvement. As an organisation committed to learning, we’re always keen to find new ways to deliver the best service possible to complainants and will work hard to build further on the progress we’ve already made.”

“The peer review rightly says that the UK is out-of-step with other modern Ombudsman services in terms of our statutory framework. Without powers of own initiative, I am hamstrung from investigating many systemic issues that no one is looking at. Legislative reform of the UK Ombudsman service would mean fewer barriers to justice and more opportunities to prevent injustice happening in the future.”

The IOI panel consisted of Dr Andreas Pottakis, the Greek Ombudsman and President of the IOI Europe, Matanyahu Englman, State Comptroller and Ombudsman of Israel, Andrea Keenoy, Chief Operating Officer of the Housing Ombudsman, and Robert Thomas, Professor of Public Law at the University of Manchester.

The panel identified core strengths at the PHSO as leadership, enhanced training and accreditation, the development of Complaint Standards for the NHS and Government departments, professional development of staff, and IT. PHSO's new quality assurance processes, its training academy and accreditation for senior caseworkers were also said to have set new and high standards in the Ombudsman sector.

Areas for development include more coaching for caseworkers, providing more personalised reports, and promoting better awareness of the Ombudsman service.

ANGOLA | Angola's Ombudsman receives support from the UN High Commissioner's Office to achieve International Observer status

(Provedoria de Justiça (Justice Ombudsman), Angola Dec 8, 2022)

The Angolan Ombudsman will rely on the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to achieve the status of International Observer of the United Nations and the African Union, as it is an independent body.

The guarantee was given, on 24 November in Luanda, during a working meeting between the Ombudsman, Florbela Rocha Araújo, held with H.E. Mahamane Cissé-Gouro, Director of the Division of the Council for Human Rights and Treaty Mechanisms of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

On the occasion, Florbela Rocha Araújo presented an overview of the Fundamental Rights in Angola, having highlighted the need for the Ombudsman to become, at the same time, the National Human Rights Institution, similar to other realities, in order to play a more relevant role in the international arena. Mahamane Cissé-Gouro believes that, to achieve, Angola needs to have already a National Human Rights Institution of level A, in order to have a voice and a turn in international meetings.

TONGA | New mobile outreach program serves people in villages

(Office of the Ombudsman, Tonga, Dec 12, 2022)

The Office of the Ombudsman of Tonga introduced a new initiative to better facilitate easier public access to the services of the Ombudsman. Six mobile outreach programs (MOPs) covered the smaller villages of Tongatapu not commonly present in previous district outreaches.

About 25 villages on all districts of Tongatapu have received the weekly mobile drives and engaged with various members of the public including women while making tapa or weaving, primary and secondary school students, youth, construction workers and those working in their plantations.

There was no gathering in halls or in groups. Instead, the 4-member outreach team used an office shuttle as the hub for recording complaints, meeting and explaining to visitors about the Ombudsman's services and attend to other queries. The shuttle OMB-4 parks along the road side at various points and waits for people to come forward. The office cooperates with district and town officers as well as village church leaders who accepted Ombudsman brochures to be distributed to their members.

Public notices specifically to villages covered every week are sent out over the radios notifying the people the date and time for each village. Favourable responses with queries were received during the mobile outreach programs.

A total of 14 outreaches were carried out during the quarter – six mobile OPs, three radio talk-back programs/felafoaki and five OPs as part of the REACH Mission in ‘Eua. Several complaints and queries were filed from ‘Eua, an indication that community outreach programs facilitate easier access of the public to file complaints. Various activities of the office were updated on Facebook especially mobile outreach programs, staff of the months and good governance information.